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# **A Microanalytical Isotopic Study of Archean Anorthosites**

by

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A dissertation submitted to the

School of Graduate Studies

in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

Department of Earth Sciences

Memorial University of Newfoundland

May 2011

St. John's

Newfoundland

## **ABSTRACT**

This thesis focuses on developing and applying in-situ microanalytical methods to study Archean mantle evolution using radiogenic isotope tracers. The timing and mechanism of Archean crust-mantle differentiation is uncertain. Much of our knowledge of the geochemical composition of Archean mantle is through whole rock analysis of mantle-derived magmatic rocks or analysis of minerals separated from these rocks. Pervasive metamorphism and secondary alteration have affected almost all Archean rocks making bulk rock analyses unreliable. Because of this, isotopic analysis of preserved igneous domains of minerals is preferred.

In this work, isotopic analyses of Lu-Hf in zircon and Pb-Pb in plagioclase are made on coarse-grained, Archean anorthosites. An advantage of these two minerals is both have low parent-daughter ratios and therefore analyses require minimal correction for radiogenic in-growth. LA-MC-ICPMS methods for measuring Lu-Hf in zircon are well established but in-situ measurement of Pb isotopes in Pb-poor minerals required significant analytical development work. Chapters two and three document LA-MC-ICPMS methodology of Pb isotope measurements in Pb-poor silicate glasses, feldspars and sulfides and evaluate any potential biases due to sample matrix. Results demonstrate accurate and precise Pb isotope ratios can be obtained using silicate glass reference materials as calibration standards, despite differences in physical and chemical properties between samples and standards. Average accuracies for Pb-poor feldspars are within 0.40% of the preferred values with external precisions better than 0.60% (RSD,  $1\sigma$ ). Chapter four applies the in-situ Pb isotope method to igneous plagioclase megacrysts

from Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes of south West Greenland. Lead isotope data from each anorthosite complex are used to determine timing of crust extraction from the mantle. This information is coupled with Lu-Hf LA-MC-ICPMS analysis of zircon, from the same rocks, to constrain the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  and characterize the composition of the crustal end member. Results show the  $\sim 2936$  Ma Fiskenæsset and  $\sim 2914$  Ma Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes crystallized from mantle-derived melts that had interacted with ancient (Eoarchean to Hadean) mafic crust, which could still be present in south West Greenland today.

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## CO-AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT

This dissertation incorporates material that is the result of collaborative research under the supervision of Professor Paul Sylvester. Chapters 2 and 3 of this thesis were published in the *Journal of Analytical Atomic Spectrometry*. Chapter 4 has been submitted to *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* and is currently in review. A. Kate Souders is the primary author and researcher for all manuscripts/chapters including experimental design, data collection, synthesis and interpretation of data and manuscript preparation.

Professor Paul Sylvester is a co-author on all manuscripts included in this dissertation, (chapters 2 – 4). Paul provided insight and direction during the initial stages of each experiment (paper/chapter), especially the development of the LA-MC-ICPMS method presented in chapter 2. Paul was involved in discussing issues involving both data collection and interpretation. He also played a significant role reviewing and editing each manuscript.

Dr. John Myers is a co-author on the third manuscript, chapter 4, in this dissertation. John provided the geologic context for the study including all samples analyzed, unpublished mapping and geologic observations at Nunataarsuk, and first-hand observations he had made during his previous mapping at Fiskenæsset.

## Chapter 1: Overview

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Earth's mantle is a complex reservoir, chemically heterogeneous due to the dynamic interplay between it and Earth's other major geochemical reservoirs. Long-lived radiogenic isotopes are power tracers of geochemical processes and are used to track changes in the geochemical composition of the mantle through geologic time directly through the isotopic analysis of peridotites brought to the Earth's surface or indirectly through the analysis of mantle-derived material such as mid-ocean ridge basalts (MORB), ocean island basalts (OIB), juvenile granites, or individual minerals, such as pyroxene (Nd isotopes) and zircon (Hf isotopes), separated from these rocks (*e.g.* Bennett et al., 1993; Layahe et al., 1995; Vervoort and Blichert-Toft, 1999; Chauvel and Blichert-Toft, 2001; Kamber et al., 2003; Hiess et al., 2009).

The isotopic composition of the Archean mantle is poorly defined. Much of our knowledge of the geochemical composition of the Archean mantle is based on bulk rock analyses of mafic volcanics or juvenile granites (*e.g.* Bennett et al., 1993; Layahe et al., 1995; Bowring and Housh, 1995; Vervoort and Blichert-Toft, 1999; Kamber et al., 2003; Polat et al., 2003; Blichert-Toft et al., 2004; Hoffmann et al., 2010) or zircons separated from these rocks (*e.g.* Vervoort et al., 1996; Vervoort and Blichert-Toft, 1999; Amelin, 2000; Harrison et al., 2005, 2008; Blichert-Toft and Albarade, 2008; Hiess et al., 2009; Kemp et al., 2009, 2010; Zeh et al., 2010). The interpretation of radiogenic isotope data for a suite of whole rocks is complex due to the range of isotope ratios typically found, and the multiple processes that have commonly affected those compositions. It is

important, for instance, to distinguish between primary and secondary isotope signatures of samples. Often, bulk analyses represent a summation of open system processes and/or radiogenic in-growth of daughter isotopes after crystallization, obscuring the primary isotopic compositions of interest. Hadean and Archean age rocks consist of only ~ 7 % of the exposed rock record yet represent > 50 % of Earth's history (Hawkesworth et al., 2010) and many of the > 2.5 Ga rocks exposed at the surface have been intensely altered and deformed and no longer preserve their initial isotopic signatures (Bennett, 2003). Determination of initial isotope ratios of mantle-derived material, especially for Hadean and Archean samples, is critical to tracing the isotopic composition of the mantle through time, but difficult where secondary processing is pervasive or intense.

Archean anorthosite complexes represent a minor, yet distinct rock type found within most Archean cratons of the world (Figure 1-1). Traditional whole rock isotopic studies have concluded that Archean anorthosites were derived from chondritic or depleted mantle derived melts yet a range of isotopic compositions have been determined for each anorthosite complex investigated. For example, Nd isotope data from various studies (Ashwal et al., 1985, 1989; Barton, 1996; Bhasker Rao et al., 1996, 2000; Fletcher et al., 1988; Polat et al., 2010) plotted in Figure 1-2 show that the sources of Archean anorthosites have initial  $\epsilon_{Nd}$  values that range over 2 or more units for each complex. It is unclear, however, whether this range represents mantle heterogeneities, crustal contamination or a summation of open system processes. Most Archean anorthosites are intensely deformed and metamorphosed yet preserved igneous minerals such as plagioclase megacrysts and zircon crystals have been identified within several

complexes (e.g. Ashwal et al., 1983; Myers, 1985; Myers 1988; Fletcher et al., 1988).

These minerals are ideal targets for in situ isotopic analysis and further characterizing the source of Archean anorthosites and the isotope composition of the Archean mantle. An in situ approach is especially advantageous when investigating highly deformed rocks with complex deformation and metamorphic histories because the analysis is focused on previously identified pristine domains within an individual crystal.

This thesis consists of both analytical development of a laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-MC-ICPMS) method to measure Pb isotope ratios in Pb-poor materials (Chapters 2 and 3; published as Souders and Sylvester, 2008a, 2010) and the application of the method to characterize the source of Archean anorthosites and the isotope composition of the Archean mantle (Chapter 4; Souders et al., in review). The rocks of the study are from two Archean anorthosite complexes in south West Greenland, Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk. A companion paper to Chapter 2 (published as Souders and Sylvester, 2008b), giving more details on the analytical procedures and the principles behind them is included in the Appendix at the end of the thesis.

## **1.2. BACKGROUND**

### **1.2.1 Crust – Mantle Evolution and Initial Pb Isotope Ratios**

The Pb isotope compositions of a rock or mineral changes over time based on the radioactive decay of  $^{238}\text{U}$  to  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{235}\text{U}$  to  $^{207}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{232}\text{Th}$  to  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  and the parent daughter ratio of the system. The U and Th parent isotopes have half-lives ranging from 0.7 – 14 Ga, long enough to have produced large variations in parent-daughter ratios that



can be used to constrain models of crust-mantle evolution on Earth (e.g. Stacey and Kramers, 1975; Kramers and Tolstikhin, 1997). Pb isotope ratios are also sensitive indicators of heterogeneities within source regions of igneous rocks as a result of crustal contamination and magma mixing due to large concentration differences between U, Th and Pb in the mantle, mantle-derived magmas and the crust (Oversby, 1975; Housh and Bowring, 1991).

Lead isotope analyses of modern basalts provide information about the composition and heterogeneities of the mantle today (Hofmann, 2004 and references therein; GEOROC database <http://georoc.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/georoc/>). Application of the Pb isotope method to trace mantle composition through time using ancient mantle-derived rocks requires knowledge of the initial Pb isotope composition of these rocks. When a volume of mantle undergoes partial melting, the melt inherits the Pb isotope composition of the entire system. Combining the initial Pb isotope compositions of mantle-derived rocks of various ages provides information about the composition and differentiation history of the mantle.

Determination of the initial Pb isotope composition for ancient rocks is hindered by the high mobility of U during low temperature hydrothermal alteration and high-grade metamorphism (Rosholt et al., 1973; Rudnick et al., 1985) and knowledge of the crystallization age of the sample. Any disturbance of the parent-daughter ratio (U/Pb, Th/Pb) prohibits back-calculation of the initial Pb isotope ratios from the present-day measured values. A potential solution to this problem is to measure Pb isotope compositions of individual minerals with low U/Pb such as feldspars and galena (e.g.

Doe, 1962; Stacey and Kramers, 1975; Ludwig and Silver, 1977; Housh and Bowring, 1991). In theory, the Pb isotope composition of these minerals should be unaffected by U-mobility and radiogenic in-growth and should reflect the initial Pb isotope composition of the melt they crystallized from.

### **1.2.2 In-situ Pb Isotope Analysis**

Advances in analytical instrumentation over the past ~20 years have provided analysts with the capabilities to make elemental and isotopic measurements in-situ, rather than by traditional bulk methods. LA-ICPMS and secondary ion mass spectrometry (SIMS) allows the scientist to target specific domains (10s – 100s of  $\mu\text{m}$ ) within minerals of interest for further characterization. Typically, these areas of interest are identified prior to in-situ analysis by optical microscopy and back-scattered electron (BSE) and cathodoluminescence (CL) imaging by scanning electron microscopy. Potential sources of radiogenic Pb, such as in cracks, grain boundaries and mineral inclusions, that had hampered Pb leaching procedures for feldspars (Housh and Bowring, 1991; Connelly and Thrane, 2005) can be avoided by combined imaging and in-situ analysis.

#### ***1.2.2.1 LA-MC-ICPMS Pb Isotope Analysis***

LA-MC-ICPMS has been demonstrated to be able to document isotopic variations on tiny objects of geologic interest at high spatial resolution. In-situ measurements of common Pb isotope compositions in minerals with low U/Pb and Th/Pb have become increasingly important for a variety of applications. Lead isotope ratio measurements by LA-MC-ICPMS have been applied to a range of problems including accessory mineral geochronology (e.g Horn et al., 2000; Willigers et al., 2002; Simonetti et al., 2005; Vry

and Baker, 2006); analysis of melt inclusions (*e.g.* Paul et al., 2005); isotopic tracing in silicate and sulfide magmatic systems (*e.g.* Mathez and Waight, 2003; Gagnevin et al., 2005; Mathez and Kent, 2007); sedimentary provenance investigations (*e.g.* Tyrrell et al., 2006; Connelly and Thrane, 2005); and environmental studies for contaminant source apportionment (*e.g.* McGill et al., 2003; Novak et al., 2010). With improvements in instrumentation, the range of problems and matrices analyzed by the laser ablation technique continues to expand.

Despite advances of the technique, the measurement of Pb isotope ratios by LA-MC-ICPMS is not without difficulties. Unlike most radiogenic isotope systems (*e.g.* Sm-Nd, Lu-Hf), the Pb isotope system does not have an invariant isotope pair with which to internally correct for instrumental mass bias. Alternative external corrections methods such as aspirating a Tl tracer solution during laser analysis to monitor Pb fractionation (*e.g.* Horn et al., 2000; Kosler et al., 2002) or standard – sample – standard bracketing with silicate glass reference materials of known Pb isotope composition (*e.g.* Willigers et al., 2002; Simonetti et al., 2005) must be employed instead. The latter method is used in Chapter 2 (published as Souders and Sylvester, 2008a). As with any external correction method, the potential for mass bias variations as a function of matrix composition must be carefully evaluated. In Chapter 3 (published as Souders and Sylvester, 2010), potential biases in measured Pb isotope ratios as a function of sample matrix for feldspar and sulfide minerals are tested by calibration against a silicate glass reference material. It is found that a silicate glass is an appropriate standard to correct for mass bias when measuring Pb isotope ratios in Pb-poor (< 40 ppm total Pb) feldspars and sulfides.

A further limitation of Pb isotope ratio measurements by LA-MC-ICPMS is instrument sensitivity and measurement of the stable  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope. Not only is  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  the least abundant of all Pb isotopes ( $\sim 1.4\%$  of all common Pb), it also suffers from an isobaric interference from  $^{204}\text{Hg}$ . The ability to measure Pb isotope ratios involving the minor  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope becomes progressively more difficult as the total Pb concentration of a material decreases. Measurement precision is strongly dependant on ion beam intensities (Paul et al., 2005; Kent, 2008; Chapter 2, published as Souders and Sylvester, 2008a). In order to measure materials with low total Pb concentrations ( $< 20$  ppm Pb), compromises between spatial resolution and precision must be made.

MC-ICPMS instruments allow for the simultaneous measurement of all isotopes of interest. Early LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope measurements were made using multiple Faraday detectors (e.g. Mathez and Waight, 2003) or multiple Faraday detectors plus an axial multiplier for the low intensity 204-mass signal (e.g. Willigers et al., 2002; Horstwood et al., 2003). There are many advantages to using Faraday detectors including high efficiency and uniform response time; yet the precision is severely compromised by resistor noise when measuring low intensity signals such as  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  (Longerich, 2008). Not all investigations require the measurement of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , yet most natural variation is recorded in the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios.

In order to accommodate the limitations of the Faraday collector configuration and enable the measurement of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , previous LA-MC-ICPMS studies focused on Pb-rich materials with total Pb concentrations greater than  $\sim 80$  ppm Pb (e.g. apatite, monazite, Pb-rich sulfides; Willigers et al., 2002; Horstwood et al., 2003; Mathez and

Waight, 2003) or analysis of minerals with moderate to low Pb concentrations using a large laser beam (100 – 200  $\mu\text{m}$ ) rastered across the surface of the mineral (e.g. K-feldspar, plagioclase; Mathez and Waight, 2003; Connelly and Thrane, 2005; Gagnevin et al., 2005). For many of these investigations, data for all 4 Pb isotopes were collected ( $^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ ), yet only the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  proved useful due to low  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  ion beam intensities resulting in imprecise  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope ratio measurements.

Recently, multiple ion counters have been installed within the collector array of MC-ICPMS instruments (e.g. Figure 1-3). The addition of multiple ion counters within the MC-ICPMS collector array has significantly increased the precision with which the low intensity  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  ion beam is measured and extended the method to include measurement of Pb-poor materials (e.g. plagioclase; < 20 ppm Pb) with improved spatial resolution (40 – 99  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spots). At  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  ion beam intensities < 50,000 cps, use of parallel Faraday cup – ion counting systems improves the internal precision on the  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios by 1 – 2 orders of magnitude (Kent, 2008).

Increased spatial resolution and improved precision and accuracy for Pb isotope ratio measurements of Pb-poor minerals are both advantages of Pb isotope ratio measurements using multiple ion counters, but there are also drawbacks. Ion counters are less stable than Faraday detectors and changes in ion counter gains, or drift, will occur due to degradation of the ion counter surface by exposure to the ion beam. This drift occurs over time periods as short as a single analytical session (Souders and Sylvester, 2008b). Therefore, when using ion counters, it is important to keep count rates low (< 300,000 cps) to minimize detector drift and potential dead-time correction errors

associated with pulse pile up. Reducing the ion beam intensity will also prolong the life span of the detector. Additional effort is also required to cross calibrate the detectors when using ion counting systems, especially when dealing with mixed Faraday – ion counter collector configurations, due to differences in relative response times between the two types of detectors (Cottle et al., 2009).

### 1.2.3 Anorthosites

Anorthosites are rocks made up of  $\geq 90\%$  plagioclase feldspar (Streckeisen, 1976). They are found throughout the Earth's geological record since at least 3700 Ma (Kinney et al., 1988). Anorthosites are only a minor component of the Earth's crust yet they comprise a dominant portion of the lunar surface and possibly Mercury and also occur as meteorites (Strom and Sprague, 2003; Taylor, 2009). Anorthosites have been classified most recently by Ashwal (1993) into 6 basic types: (1) Archean megacrystic anorthosite (*e.g.* Fiskensæset Complex, south West Greenland; Manfred Complex, Western Australia; Bad Vermillion Lake Complex, Ontario), (2) Proterozoic (massif-type) anorthosites (*e.g.* Lac-Saint-Jean Complex, Quebec; Nain Plutonic Suite, Labrador; Laramie Anorthosite Complex, Wyoming), (3) Anorthosites of layered mafic complexes (*e.g.* Bushveld Complex, South Africa; Stillwater Intrusion, Montana), (4) Anorthosites of oceanic settings (within ophiolites), (5) Anorthosite inclusions in other rock types (*e.g.* xenoliths or plagioclase accumulations) and (6) Extraterrestrial anorthosites (*e.g.* Lunar highlands, meteorites). The classification is based on distinctive features such as age, composition, texture, geologic setting and geological associations. Some overlap between categories is recognized and some anorthosites are difficult to characterize; yet all known

occurrences fit, generally, into one of these 6 categories. This thesis focuses on Archean anorthosites. A detailed description of the features of Archean anorthosite complexes follows.

### ***1.2.3.1 Archean Anorthosite Complexes***

Anorthosites are a minor yet distinctive feature of many Archean terranes, found in association with mafic supracrustal rocks (Figure 1-1). Archean anorthosites are characterized by equidimensional, calcic ( $>An_{85-10}$ ), plagioclase megacrysts, 0.5 – 30 cm in diameter, within a mafic groundmass (Figure 1-4). The characteristic composition and texture of these anorthosites are generally only found within Archean terranes. Along with komatiites, Archean anorthosites represent the only rock type largely restricted to the Archean (Ashwal, 1993, and references therein).

Although massive bodies of megacrystic anorthosite do occur (*e.g.* Shawmere anorthosite, Ontario; Simmons et al., 1980), Archean anorthosites commonly form sheet-like bodies originally emplaced as sills (*e.g.* Fiskensæset, SW Greenland; Sittampundi, India; Messina layered intrusion, South Africa; Bird River and Pipestone Lake, Canada). Many Archean anorthosites (*e.g.* Fiskensæset, Messina, Sittampundi) have subsequently been fragmented and deformed by the intrusion of granitoids and subsequent tectonic activity yet still maintain their sheet-like structure (Windley et al. 1973; Barton et al. 1979; Myers, 1985;). These anorthosites are commonly found in layers associated with leucogabbro, gabbro, and ultramafic units of similar origin. The contact relationships between anorthosite complexes and surrounding country rock are most often obscured due to deformation and metamorphism ranging from lower greenschist to granulite facies.

Primary relationships between the anorthosite complex and the mafic metavolcanic country rocks have been described at Fiskenæsset (Greenland) (Escher and Myers, 1975) (Figure 1-5) and in the Bad Vermilion Lake complex (Wood et al., 1980).

Megacrystic, Ca-plagioclase surrounded by a mafic matrix is common to most Archean anorthosite complexes. The degree to which these megacrysts retain both igneous texture and composition depends on the severity of deformation (Figure 1-6). Inclusions of amphibole  $\pm$  pyroxene  $\pm$  rutile are common in some igneous plagioclase megacrysts (Ashwal et al., 1983; Myers and Platt, 1977; Myers, 1985). Recrystallized megacrysts tend to be free of inclusions. There is little compositional heterogeneity within individual relict plagioclase megacrysts or entire anorthosite complexes (Myers and Platt, 1977; Phinney et al., 1988). Relict igneous plagioclase megacrysts are generally  $An_{80\pm10}$ . More sodic plagioclase compositions ( $< An_{70}$ ) are explained by the removal of Ca to form epidote group minerals, calcite, or hornblende, common secondary minerals in anorthosite complexes (e.g. epidote/calcite (Bad Vermilion Lake, Manfred Complex); Ashwal et al., 1983; Fletcher et al., 1988; hornblende (Messina): Barton, 1996). Very high An-values ( $An_{90-100}$ ) found in some high-grade anorthosite complexes could be the result of the removal of albite (Na) components by partial melts (Ashwal, 1993).

The mafic mineral matrix surrounding the plagioclase megacrysts can be coarse or fine-grained and makes up between 0 – 50% of the groundmass (Ashwal, 1993). The bulk composition of the matrix is generally basaltic and has been interpreted to represent the trapped liquid of the anorthosite parent magma (Ashwal et al., 1983). Amphiboles



dominate the mafic matrix, which also includes relict igneous pyroxenes as well as olivine, plagioclase, spinel, chromite and magnetite. Barton et al. (1979) documented an inverse relationship between the An-content in plagioclase and amphibole abundance within the Messina layered intrusion suggesting the amphibole formed as a product of a metamorphic reaction between plagioclase and anhydrous mafic silicates.

The igneous or metamorphic origin of amphibole within Archean anorthosite complexes is a topic of ongoing debate. This interpretation has further implications on the water content of the anorthosite parent melt. At Fiskenæsset, Weaver et al. (1981) found no geochemical evidence for primary amphibole crystallization in samples from the Fiskenæsset complex and Myers (1985) found no petrographic evidence for primary amphibole at Majorqap qava. In contrast, Keulen et al. (2009) reported clinopyroxene – hornblende sills intruding a layered dunite sequence within the Majorqap qava region, suggesting the Fiskenæsset complex contained a hydrous batch of magma that intruded the early olivine cumulates. Windley et al. (1973) documented interlayering of hornblende-bearing and hornblende-free assemblages and millimeter-scale layers of hornblende within ultramafic rocks at Qeqertarsuatsiaq. They also noted equilibrium intergrowth textures between olivine and hornblende in Qeqertarsuatsiaq ultramafic rocks, all considered evidence for primary igneous amphibole. Polat et al. (2009) described hornblende veins consisting of magmatic amphiboles on Qeqertarsuatsiaq Island. Rollinson et al. (2010) interpreted amphibole inclusions within chromites from this same location within the Fiskenæsset complex to be igneous in origin. Each of the

three investigations at Qeqertarsuatsiaq concluded that Fiskenæsset formed from hydrous parent magmas.

Traditionally, primary magmas for Archean anorthosite complexes have been thought to be anhydrous (Ashwal, 1993). Yet, experimental evidence documents that elevated water content in mafic magmas results in the crystallization of high-Ca plagioclase (*e.g.* Sisson and Grove, 1993; Tagaki et al., 2005). A hydrous parent magma could possibly explain the high Ca-composition of plagioclase megacrysts within Archean anorthosite complexes as it does for the high-Ca compositions of anorthosites incorporated into Proterozoic island arcs (*e.g.* Burg et al., 1998; Gibson and Ireland, 1999), yet the megacrystic texture, characteristic of Archean anorthosites, is missing from the younger high-Ca anorthosites (Ashwal, 2010).

Determining the bulk composition and source of Archean anorthosites is a difficult task and ongoing problem in petrology (Phinney et al., 1988). No single attempt at determining the anorthosite parent melt composition has been considered entirely successful, yet many attempts have been made (Ashwal, 1993). There are several general methods to estimate the parent melt composition of Archean anorthosites. One approach is to look for, find and analyze melt inclusions or chilled margins of the intrusion and assume that they represent the original parent magma composition. Unfortunately, these features are very rare within Archean anorthosite complexes due to secondary alteration and deformation. Alternative approaches to determine the parent magma composition must be considered. Other approaches that have been used include: (1) Estimating the bulk composition of a single anorthosite complex by adding the average geochemical

composition of each unit, weighted by the surface area that each unit is exposed (*e.g.* Windley et al., 1973; Barton et al., 1979; Polat et al., 2011). This method assumes that the present relative proportions are representative of the original proportions of each lithology, all major lithological units are present, nothing has been lost by tectonic or magmatic processes and the entire sequence crystallized from one batch of magma; (2) Assuming associated dikes, sills and flows are comagmatic with the anorthosite complex and taking the most primitive composition of these units as being representative of the parent melt composition of the anorthosite (*e.g.* Weaver et al., 1981, 1982; Ashwal et al., 1983; Phinney et al., 1988); and (3) Using crystal-melt distribution coefficients to calculate equilibrium melt compositions from geochemical analysis of bulk samples and cumulate mineral separates (*e.g.* Henderson et al., 1976; Simmons et al., 1980; Weaver et al., 1981; Phinney and Morrison, 1990). The results of using partition coefficients have been mixed and success rests heavily on assuring the best-preserved mineral separates and bulk rocks are analyzed and appropriate partition coefficients are used (Ashwal, 1993). Regardless of the method, all investigations have reached a similar conclusion: the parent magma of Archean anorthosites was (broadly) basaltic (Ashwal, 1993).

Emplacement into oceanic crust is assumed for most Archean anorthosite complexes based on geochemical similarities and/or the spatial association of anorthosite complexes with mafic supracrustal rocks of greenstone belt affinity (Windley et al., 1973; Escher and Myers, 1975; Ashwal et al., 1983; Peck and Valley, 1996; Polat et al., 2009, 2011). The exact ocean environment is currently unresolved and debated. Recently both Polat et al. (2009) and Rollinson et al. (2010) proposed an oceanic arc setting for the

Fiskeneset complex based on bulk rock trace element chemistry and chromitite geochemistry, respectively. They proposed that Al-, Ca- Sr- and LREE-enrichment was due to metasomatism of the depleted mantle wedge by slab-derived melts. An early model for Archean anorthosite complexes proposed by Phinney (1982) suggested that mafic, mantle-derived melts ponded at or near the base of oceanic crust where, upon cooling, the crystallization of mafic silicates commenced and the magma was enriched in both Ca and Al. After sufficient cooling time to allow for the formation of large, Ca-rich, compositionally homogeneous plagioclase megacrysts, the less-dense plagioclase crystals were separated from the mafic material and carried upward through the crust along with varying amounts of remaining melt and emplaced at near-surface depths as flows, sills, and dikes.

Modifications to the original multi-stage emplacement model of Phinney (1982) were made by Phinney et al. (1988) to account for new experimental results (Morrison et al., 1985). The modified model calls for the crystallization and accumulation of mafic phases at depth within a high-pressure magma chamber. When the density of the melt is low enough, the fractionated melt will rise from the base of the crust to a low-pressure magma chamber within the crust where Ca-rich plagioclase will crystallize as the primary liquidus phase as a result of depressurization. The crystallized ultramafic material remains at depth (Stolper and Walker, 1980). Replenishment of melt from depth to the low-pressure magma chambers would produce high-concentrations of Ca-rich, cumulate plagioclase seen in Archean anorthosite complexes and force melts, with varying

concentrations of plagioclase cumulates, towards the surface as flows, dikes and sills (Phinney et al., 1988).

#### **1.2.4 Previous Isotopic Studies of Archean Anorthosites**

There have been numerous isotopic studies of the Sm-Nd, Rb-Sr and Pb-Pb systems in bulk rocks and mineral separates from Archean anorthosite complexes. In addition, several recent studies have reported U-Pb and Pb-Pb zircon ages and Hf isotopic compositions of zircon grains from Archean anorthosites and leucogabbros (e.g. Kinney et al., 1988; Mouri et al., 2009; Zeh et al., 2010; Keulen et al., 2010). The Sm-Nd, Pb-Pb, U-Pb and Lu-Hf isotopic studies are summarized in Table 1-1. A number of the previous isotopic studies have been concerned with Fiskenaesset anorthosites (Black et al., 1973; Gancarz, 1976; Moorbath and Pankhurst, 1976; Pidgeon and Kalsbeek, 1978; Kalsbeek and Pidgeon, 1980; Taylor et al., 1980; Ashwal et al., 1989; Keulen et al., 2010; Polat et al., 2010, 2011) but none have dealt with Nunataarsuk anorthosites.

There have been no previous reports on Archean anorthosites that included in situ analyses of the Pb isotope composition of plagioclase and only one report of the Hf isotope composition of zircon. In the latter, Zeh et al. (2010) analyzed ~3350 Ma zircon grains from two anorthosite samples from the Messina Layered Intrusion, South Africa, for Hf isotopes by LA-MC-ICPMS. Initial  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  (ca. 3350 Ma) for the anorthosites are  $+1.4 \pm 1.8$  and  $+0.1 \pm 1.9$ , respectively, which was interpreted as reflecting slight enrichment of depleted mantle-derived melts by crustal contamination.

#### *1.2.4.1 Previous Pb Isotope Studies of Archean Anorthosites*

Previous studies of Pb isotopes in bulk rocks and mineral separates by TIMS have been reported for 3 anorthosites in south West Greenland (Fiskenæsset, Storöo and Ivnaugtoq; Black et al., 1973; Gancarz, 1976; Polat et al., 2010), the Messina Layered Intrusion, South Africa (Barton et al., 1983, 1996) and the Manfred complex, Western Australia (Fletcher et al., 1988). Most studies focused on determining the crystallization and/or metamorphic age of the anorthosite and only a few investigations (Gancarz, 1976; Barton, 1996) were aimed at determining initial Pb isotope ratios in order to characterize the source of the anorthosites. A range of Pb isotope ratios is presented in each investigation, largely the result of radiogenic in-growth of Pb, yet without knowledge of initial Pb isotope ratios, variations due to magmatic or secondary processes are ambiguous. Previous Pb isotope investigations of Archean anorthosites are summarized below.

##### *Anorthosites from south West Greenland*

Black et al. (1973) reported the first Pb isotope data from 5 anorthosites and 1 gneiss from the Fiskenæsset complex. A Pb-Pb isochron age of  $2810 \pm 70$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) was determined and interpreted to represent a regional granulite facies metamorphic event. Polat et al. (2010) presented Pb-Pb data from 46 granulites (20 anorthosites, 6 leucogabbros, 4 gabbros, 6 ultramafic rocks) from Qeqertarsuatsiaq, located on the western edge of the Fiskenæsset complex. The Pb-Pb isochron for all samples yielded an age of  $2945 \pm 36$  Ma (MSWD = 44) and intersects the Stacey and Kramers (1975) growth curve at 3036 Ma. Polat et al. (2010) interpreted the  $\sim 2945$  Ma isochron age to be within

error of the crystallization age of the Fiskenæsset complex. Gancarz (1976) was focused on determining initial Pb isotope ratios in order to characterize the reservoir from which the Fiskenæsset anorthosite was derived. Pb isotope ratios of plagioclase and hornblende mineral separates and a bulk leucogabbro sample from the Majorqap Qava area of the Fiskenæsset complex were measured. Cores of plagioclase megacrysts were generally less radiogenic than analyzed rims and were considered most representative of the initial Pb isotope composition of the Fiskenæsset complex. Biotite, hornblende and epidote separates analyzed all had more radiogenic Pb isotope compositions. The analyzed mineral separates define a Pb-Pb isochron, colinear with that of Black et al. (1973) yielding an age of ~2800 Ma and corresponding to a source  $\mu$ -value of ~8. Gancarz (1976) also analyzed plagioclase megacryst separates from two other anorthosites, Storo and Ivnaugtoq, within the Godthabsfjord region of south West Greenland. At both Storo and Ivnaugtoq, the rims of each plagioclase megacryst analyzed were found to be more radiogenic than the corresponding core. A precise age for the Storo and Ivnaugtoq anorthosites could not be determined due to insufficient spread in the measured Pb isotope ratio yet the data for each anorthosite are consistent with an age of ~2800 Ma and source  $\mu$ -values of 5.4 (Storo) and 7.6 (Ivnaugtoq). All three anorthosites were similar in age yet each had a different initial Pb isotope composition suggesting that the 3 anorthosites are not cogenetic and each anorthosite has a unique source history.

#### *Messina Layered Intrusion, South Africa*

Barton et al. (1983) presented Pb-Pb whole rock data for 8 quartz-hornblende-plagioclase gneiss samples from the Messina Layered Intrusion, South Africa. The

samples defined an isochron corresponding to an age of  $\sim 3270$  Ma, interpreted to be the timing of emplacement of the complex. Barton (1996) analyzed the Pb isotope composition of plagioclase megacrysts, megacryst fragments and recrystallized plagioclase separated from the quartz-hornblende-plagioclase gneisses previously analyzed. The Pb isotope compositions measured from the igneous (grey) plagioclase megacrysts and fragments define a trend, distinct from the trend defined by the Pb isotope ratios of the metamorphic plagioclase and whole rock samples. The isochron age corresponding to the trend of Pb isotope compositions measured for the igneous plagioclase is greater than the age of the Earth and was interpreted to be a mixing line between a low  $\mu$  depleted mantle source and a high  $\mu$  source with a Pb isotope composition similar to the surrounding country rock of the intrusion. The range of Pb isotope data suggests assimilation of surrounding rocks with the mantle derived anorthosite magma prior to crystallization of the anorthosite.

#### *Manfred complex, Western Australia*

Pb isotope geochronology of gabbros, leucogabbros, anorthosites and ultramafic units from the Manfred Complex was presented in Fletcher et al. (1988). Pb isotope analyses were made on both whole rocks and mineral separates. Analyses were divided into 3 groups: least radiogenic, moderately radiogenic and highly radiogenic. The 6 samples that make up the least radiogenic group are generally accessory mineral free and define a linear array corresponding to an isochron age of  $3689 \pm 146$  Ma (MSWD = 8.7) with an apparent source  $\mu = 10.2 \pm 0.4$ . The Pb-Pb isochron age is within error of the U-



Pb zircon crystallization age of 3730  $\pm$  6 Ma (Kinney et al., 1988) and the 3680  $\pm$  70 Ma Sm-Nd isochron age determined for the Manfred complex.

### 1.3. THESIS OVERVIEW

LA-MC-ICPMS analysis has provided Earth scientists with the ability to determine precise isotopic ratios of major and minor elements in minerals in-situ. Most studies have focused on isotopes that are sufficiently abundant in the sample (*e.g.* Mg in olivine; S, Fe and Cu in sulfides; Nd in monazite; Hf in zircon) and employed the use of Faraday detectors. Integration of ion counters into the collector configuration of multi-collector ICPMS instruments has opened the possibility of determining precise isotope ratios of trace elements in minerals. Instead of trying to understand isotopic variations on the scale of a whole rock sample, isotopic variations on the mineral scale can now be evaluated and interpreted.

Previous LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope investigations measured all Pb isotopes in Faraday cups or a combination of Faraday cups and ion counters. Most of these in-situ investigations were limited by sensitivity, both for reducing the laser spot size in Pb - 'rich' materials ( $> 70$  ppm total Pb) and for extending the technique to measure Pb - 'poor' materials such as plagioclase feldspar and melt inclusions. The integration of ion counters into the traditional Faraday cup configuration of MC-ICPMS instruments greatly improves precision on low intensity signals (Paul et al., 2005; Kent, 2008; Souders and Sylvester, 2008b). Many previous LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope investigations do not report Pb isotope ratios involving the minor  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope ( $\sim 1.4\%$  of all natural Pb) due to difficulties in precisely measuring this relatively low-abundance isotope.

Chapter 2 (Souders and Sylvester, 2008a) presents a new LA-MC-ICPMS technique to measure Pb isotopes in Pb-‘poor’ silicate glasses (< 15 ppm total Pb). The method allows for the static, concurrent measurement of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  as well as  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in 5 Channeltron ion counters installed within the Thermo-Scientific NEPTUNE collector array. The accuracy and precision of the method is evaluated by replicate analysis of several MPI-DING reference glasses made from natural silicate rocks with well-characterized Pb isotope ratios and chemical compositions and total Pb concentrations ranging from ~1 – 11 ppm total Pb (Jochum et al., 2000, 2005). Minimum laser spot sizes for LA-MC-ICPMS measurements are between 40 – 69  $\mu\text{m}$ , improving spatial resolution over previous in-situ investigations reporting  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . Average measured Pb isotope ratios for the MPI-DING reference glasses T1-G (11.6 ppm total Pb) and ATHO-G (5.67 ppm total Pb) agree within 0.10 % and 0.15 % respectively of the preferred values using the 40  $\mu\text{m}$  spots. For MPI-DING KL2-G (2.07 ppm total Pb) and ML3B-G (1.28 ppm total Pb) measured  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope ratios agree within 0.75 % of the accepted values with typical precisions of < 0.85 % (RSD) using 69  $\mu\text{m}$  spots; measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  are within 0.25% of preferred values with precisions of < 0.25% (RSD). These results demonstrate improvement over previous LA-MC-ICPMS data in terms of both quantification limits and spatial resolution, while retaining similar levels of accuracy and precision.

Unlike other radiogenic isotope systems of geological interest (e.g. Rb-Sr, Sm-Nd, Lu-Hf), the Pb isotope system lacks an invariant Pb isotope ratio that can be used for internal mass bias corrections of measured Pb isotope ratios. Instead, an external

normalization method such as aspirating a thallium tracer solution during laser analysis to monitor lead isotope fractionation (*e.g.* Horn et al., 2000; Kosler et al., 2002) or standard – sample – standard bracketing with reference materials of known lead isotope compositions (*e.g.* Willigers et al., 2002; Paul et al., 2005; Souders and Sylvester, 2008a) must be employed. The technique to measure lead isotopes in lead-‘poor’ materials presented in Chapter 2 uses standard – sample – standard bracketing to externally correct for mass bias. Standard – sample – standard bracketing can only be used if drift of the measured isotope ratios of the standards is linear over the course of the analytical period and there is no difference in mass discrimination between the standard matrix relative to the sample matrix.

Measured LA-MC-ICPMS ratios differ from true isotope ratio values due to mass-dependant processes such as instrumental mass bias and isotopic fractionation. Mass discrimination plays a limiting role in the accuracy of isotope ratio measurements and proper correction procedures must be ensured, especially when external normalization methods are used. Isotopic fractionation can be influenced by instrument parameters, laser ablation parameters and differences in chemical and physical properties between standards and samples, or matrix effects. The effect of sample matrix can result in variable ablation rates, particle size formation, particle composition, particle transport efficiency and mass loading in the Ar-plasma (Sylvester, 2008 and references therein). Therefore the potential for mass bias variation as a function of sample matrix must be carefully evaluated.

Several high-precision LA-MC-ICPMS investigations using external normalization procedures have identified significant sample matrix-related biases (Mason et al., 2006; Norman et al., 2006). The study presented in Chapter 3 (Souders and Sylvester, 2010) evaluates the need for matrix matching for LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope measurements of lead-'poor' (< 40 ppm total Pb) feldspar and sulfide minerals using standard – sample – standard bracketing to correct for mass discrimination. Feldspar minerals and sulfides, two materials with large differences in matrix composition and ablation behavior, were chosen to determine the quality of data possible when calibrating samples with standards having different physical and chemical characteristics. The Pb isotope ratios of the 3 different feldspar minerals were calibrated against NIST 612, NIST 614 and BCR2-G. Each feldspar analyzed had different chemical composition, physical characteristics and total lead concentration. The average  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207,208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios measured for all 3 feldspars, independent of calibration standard, are within 0.40 % of the preferred average values determined by thermal ionization mass spectrometry (TIMS) as part of this investigation. External precisions for the lead isotope measurements of feldspar by LA-MC-ICPMS are better than 0.60 % (RSD, 1 $\sigma$ ). Lead isotope ratios of three different sulfides were determined by LA-MC-ICPMS using NIST 612 or PB-1, a synthetic sulfide glass, as the external standard. Two sulfides, PB-1 and B41, contained little to no measurable mercury. The mean  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206,207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  are accurate within 0.40 % of the TIMS results with only subtle differences in results between matrix-matched (PB-1) by and non-matrix-matched (NIST 612/614). The final results suggest that accurate and precise Pb isotope ratios measured for lead-

'poor' minerals can be obtained by LA-MC-ICPMS using available silicate glass reference materials regardless of differences in the physical and chemical properties between standards and samples.

Traditional isotope and geochemical investigations have concluded that Archean anorthosites were derived from depleted mantle melts (*e.g.* Ashwal et al., 1983, 1989; Barton, 1996; Polat et al., 2009, 2010, 2011; Rollinson et al., 2010) and isotopic analysis of preserved igneous minerals could provide a window into the differentiation of the Archean mantle. A limiting factor in the isotopic analysis of Archean anorthosites, and other ancient rocks, is the pervasive metamorphism and secondary alteration that has affected most Archean rocks present at the surface of the Earth today. An advantage of in-situ isotopic analysis by methods such as LA-MC-ICPMS is that preserved igneous regions of individual minerals can be targeted for analysis, avoiding more recrystallized or altered domains.

Igneous plagioclase megacrysts preserved within Archean anorthosites make excellent targets for in-situ Pb isotopic analysis by LA-MC-ICPMS yet low Pb concentrations ( $\sim 2 - 10$  ppm Pb) and abundant mineral inclusions within preserved igneous domains hinder in-situ analysis. The incorporation of ion counters within the collector configuration of MC-ICPMS instruments and further development of the analytical method extends LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope measurements to Pb-poor materials ( $< 20$  ppm Pb) with significantly improved spatial resolution (40 – 99  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spots depending on Pb concentration) (*e.g.* Chapters 2 and 3; published as Souders and Sylvester, 2008, 2010). The new technique is applied to plagioclase megacrysts from

Archean anorthosite complex and investigations of Archean mantle evolution in Chapter 4 (Souders et al., *in review*).

The Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes of south West Greenland (Figure 1-8) are two of the best-preserved examples of Archean anorthosites in the world. Little geochemical information is known about Nunataarsuk but Fiskenæsset is thought to have a mantle source (Ashwal et al., 1989; Polat et al., 2009). Like most Archean rocks, the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk anorthosites have been intensely deformed and metamorphosed yet locally preserve igneous minerals within low-strain regions of each anorthosite complex. These pristine domains of interest can be identified through thin section petrography using an optical microscope, back-scattered electron (BSE) imaging using a scanning electron microscope (SEM) and then further characterized by in situ geochemical (EPMA and LA-ICPMS) and isotopic analysis (LA-MC-ICPMS) (Figure 1-7). The expectation is that magmatic isotope systematics are most likely to be preserved within these domains, where parent-daughter ratios have not been reset by intense deformation and secondary alteration.

In Chapter 4, the results for in situ LA-ICPMS U-Pb zircon geochronology and LA-MC-ICPMS Hf isotope compositions for zircon crystals separated from anorthosite and leucogabbro samples from Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk are also presented and used in conjunction with the lead isotope data to characterize the source of the two Archean anorthosites. In situ analysis of lead isotopes in plagioclase and Hf isotopes in zircon are powerful tools for the determination of initial isotope ratios and tracing the isotopic composition of the mantle through time because both minerals have extremely low

parent-daughter ratios for the respective isotope system of interest (plagioclase – low U/Pb; zircon – low Lu/Hf) and require, if necessary, only minimal correction for radiogenic in-growth. Lead isotopes are particularly sensitive indicators of heterogeneities due to crustal contamination, assimilation, magmatic recharge and secondary alteration within igneous systems (*e.g.* Oversby, 1975; Housh et al., 1989; McCulloch and Woodhead, 1993; Mathez and Waight, 2003; Waight and Lesher, 2010). Previous investigations employing Hf isotope measurements in zircon have demonstrated Hf systematics to be extremely robust through metamorphism and secondary alteration. Unless the zircon grain is completely recrystallized with open system exchange with other Hf-bearing minerals, zircons have been shown to retain their initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ , even when U-Th-Pb systematics within the zircon crystal have been reset. This makes Hf isotopes in zircon an ideal isotope tracer for the compositional evolution of the mantle and crustal growth processes (Patchett et al., 1981; Flowerdew et al., 2006; Gerdes and Zeh, 2009).

In situ LA-ICPMS U-Pb geochronology of zircon grains presented in Chapter 4 suggests that the crystallization age of the Fiskenæsset complex is  $2936 \pm 13$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ , MSWD = 1.5) and the Nunataarsuk complex is  $2914 \pm 6.9$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ , MSWD = 2.0). The range of Pb isotope compositions in plagioclase megacrysts and Hf isotopic compositions in zircon grains from both Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk extend beyond analytical uncertainty suggesting multiple sources contributed to the parent magma for both anorthosite complexes. The Pb isotope and Hf isotope data show that both anorthosite complexes share a depleted mantle end member yet the range of compositions suggests

the common depleted mantle end member interacted with ancient mafic crust prior to crystallization of both anorthosite complexes. At Fiskensæset, Pb isotope models predict contamination by a high  $\mu$  crust ( $\mu \sim 12$ ) with a mantle extraction age in the Eoarchean (between  $\sim 3600$  and  $\sim 3800$  Ma). For Nunataarsuk, the Pb isotope data suggest contamination of the depleted mantle end member by an ancient low  $\mu$  crust ( $\mu \sim 6$ ) isolated in the Hadean (at  $\sim 4200$  Ma).

Determining the nature of ancient crusts (mafic versus felsic) is of great interest for geologists today. The  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  is characteristic of the nature of the source. The  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of the modern continental crust is  $0.013 - 0.014$  (Taylor and McLennan, 1995). Typical  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for felsic rocks range from  $\sim 0.05$  to  $0.015$  (Pietranik et al., 2008). Mafic rocks and komatiites tend to have higher  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  from  $\sim 0.02$  to  $> 0.03$  (Blichert-Toft and Albarade, 2008; Pietranik et al., 2008; Blichert-Toft and Puchel, 2010). The measured  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of an analyzed zircon is not representative of the parent magma because zircon strongly fractionates Lu (crystal/melt distribution coefficient or  $D \ll 1$ ) from Hf ( $D > 1$ ) during crystallization. In order to constrain the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of the crustal end member for both anorthosite complexes, the timing of parent melt extraction from the depleted mantle ( $T_{\text{DM}}$ ) must be known. Using the in situ Pb isotope compositions of plagioclase megacrysts from Nunataarsuk and Fiskensæset in conjunction with the zircon Hf isotope compositions from both complexes, the nature of the ancient crustal contaminant can be determined. The in situ Pb isotope data are used to constrain the timing of crust (melt) extraction from the mantle, which is then used to calculate the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ . For both Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk, the calculated



$^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio is diagnostic of ancient mafic crust. The model presented is that the ancient mafic crusts have interacted with the depleted mantle melt prior to crystallization of each anorthosite complex.

Interpretation of the initial Pb and Hf isotope data provides evidence for the survival of Hadean and Eoarchean mafic crust until at least  $\sim 2900$  Ma, suggesting the possibility that mafic crust was widespread very early ( $>3.7$  Ga) in Earth history, and at least some of it was long-lived at the surface. There is great debate over the composition of the Earth's early crust (Armstrong 1981; Taylor and McLennan, 1995; Chase and Patchett, 1988; Bowring and Housh, 1995; Harrison et al., 2005, 2008; Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 2008; O'Neil et al., 2008). Much of our information comes from the zircon record. Unfortunately, this record is biased towards felsic rocks, which contain much greater proportions of zircon grains than mafic rocks. A large proportion of early mafic crust may be unrecognized because of the scarcity of zircon crystallizing from mafic magmas, which have extremely high zirconium solubilities (Watson and Harrison, 1983). Not only does the integration of in-situ Pb isotopes in plagioclase with Hf isotope compositions of zircons from the same rock provide a window into the isotope composition of the mantle through time, it also facilitates identification of ancient crusts.

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Table 1 - 1. Compilation of Sm - Nd, Pb - Pb, U - Pb and Lu - Hf data for Archaean Anorthositic

Location	Isotope System	Samples <sup>1</sup>	Age Information	Source Information	Interpretation	Reference
<i>Findlayson Anorthositic complex, southwest Greenland</i>						
Pb - Pb	WR anorthositic (5), gneiss (1)		2810 ± 70 Ma (2σ)		regional granulite facies metamorphism	Black et al., 1973
Pb - Pb	WR Anorthogabbro (1) MS, plagi, Mafid		~2800 Ma	p = 8	regional granulite facies metamorphism	Gancarz, 1976
Pb - Pb	WR anorthositic (20), Anorthogabbro (6) gabbro (4), ultramafic rock (8)		2947 ± 36 Ma (MSWD = 44)		crystallization age	Polat et al., 2010
Sm - Nd	WR Anorthogabbro (1), anorthositic (1), gabbro (1), ultramafic rock (1) MS, plagi, mafic matrix		2.86 ± 0.05 Ga (MSWD = 2.5)	$\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 2.9 \pm 0.4$	crystallization age; derived from depleted mantle reservoir	Arthaud et al., 1989
Sm - Nd	WR anorthositic (20), Anorthogabbro (6) gabbro (4), ultramafic rock (8)		2973 ± 2.8 Ma (MSWD = 33)	$\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 3.3 \pm 0.7$	crystallization age; depleted mantle source	Polat et al., 2010
U - Pb	zircon		2919 ± 7 Ma (2σ) 2872 ± 5 Ma (2σ) 2726 ± 28 Ma (2σ)		crystallization age; metamorphic age; metamorphic age; mantle age = 2.95 (n = 2)	Koster et al., 2010
<i>And Iroquois Lake anorthositic complex, Superior Province, Canada</i>						
Sm - Nd	WR anorthositic, gabbro, ultramafic rocks, associated mafic dikes MS		2747 ± 58 Ma	$\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 2.9 \pm 1.4$	crystallization age; derived from depleted mantle reservoir	Arthaud et al., 1985
<i>Sekamphul anorthositic complex, Dharwar craton, India</i>						
Sm - Nd	WR anorthositic, gabbro MS, plagi, Mafid		2936 ± 40 Ma (2σ) (MSWD = 5.5)	$\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 1.85 \pm 0.16$	emplacement ~3000 Ma; derived from depleted mantle source	Bhaskar Rao et al., 1996
<i>Rhaveri anorthositic complex, Dharwar craton, India</i>						
Sm - Nd	WR anorthositic, gabbro		2808 ± 52 Ma (2σ) (MSWD = 0.18)	$\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 2.18 \pm 0.14$	emplacement ~3000 Ma; derived from depleted mantle source	Bhaskar Rao et al., 1996
<i>Phalagarh anorthositic, Dharwar craton, India</i>						
Sm - Nd	WR anorthositic, hornblende, ultramafic rock		3285 ± 170 Ma (2σ) (MSWD = 0.55)	$\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 0.87 \pm 0.78$	crystallization age; derived derived from chondritic to marginally depleted source	Bhaskar Rao et al., 2000
<i>Murchison Complex, Elzevir craton, Western Australia</i>						
Pb - Pb	WR MS		3639 ± 146 Ma (2σ)	$p = 10.2 \pm 0.4$	crystallization age; mantle source; assimilated large amounts of old radiogenic crust	Fletcher et al., 1988
Sm - Nd	WR MS		3680 ± 70 Ma (2σ) (MSWD = 2)	$\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 0.2 \pm 0.7$	chondritic source contaminated with old evolved crust	Fletcher et al., 1988
U - Pb	zircon		3750 ± 6 Ma (2σ)		crystallization age	Koschek et al., 1988
<i>Mesoproterozoic Intrusion, Limpopo Belt, South Africa</i>						
Pb - Pb	MS, plagi			16 p	assimilation of radiogenic crust prior to crystallization	Barton, 1996
Sm - Nd	WR anorthositic			$\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 12 \text{ to } 1.58$	depleted mantle; and old crust mixing	Barton, 1996
Pb - Pb	WR, ?		3270 - 105 - 312 Ma		rim; emplacement age	Barton, 1993
U - Pb	zircon		3344 ± 3.6 Ma		crystallization age	Moser et al., 2009

	(anorthositic)				
U - Pb	zircon (anorthositic)	$1558 \pm 14$ Ma $1511 \pm 24$ Ma		crystallization age/ crystallization age	Zeh et al., 2009
La - HF	zircon (anorthositic)		$\epsilon_{\text{La}} = 1.4 \pm 1.8$ $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}} = 0.1 \pm 1.9$	mantle-derived rock enriched by zircon concentration	Zeh et al., 2009

<sup>a</sup>WR - whole rock sample; MS - mineral separate; plag - plagioclase feldspar; Hbl - hornblende; (n) - number of samples analyzed

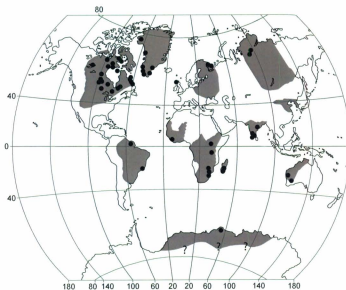


Figure 1-1: World map showing locations of Archean cratons (shaded regions) and the locations of documented Archean anorthosites (black dots). Modified from Ashwal and Myers (1994).

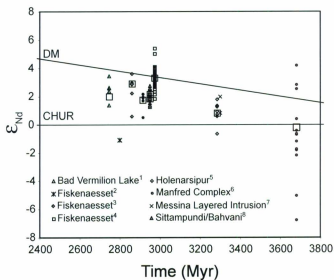


Figure 1-2: Compilation of Sm-Nd data from Archean anorthosite complexes. Large, open symbols represent the average Epsilon Nd for the respective anorthosite complex. (<sup>1</sup> Ashwal et al., 1985; <sup>2</sup> DePaolo and Wasserburg, 1979; <sup>3</sup> Ashwal et al., 1989; <sup>4</sup> Polat et al., 2010; <sup>5</sup> Bhaskar Rao et al., 2000; <sup>6</sup> Fletcher et al., 1988; <sup>7</sup> Barton, 1996; <sup>8</sup> Bhaskar Rao et al., 1996).



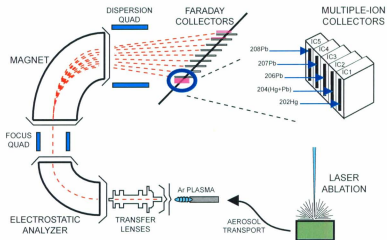


Figure 1-3: Generalized illustration of the Thermo Scientific NEPTUNE multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer with multiple ion counters installed within the cup configuration.

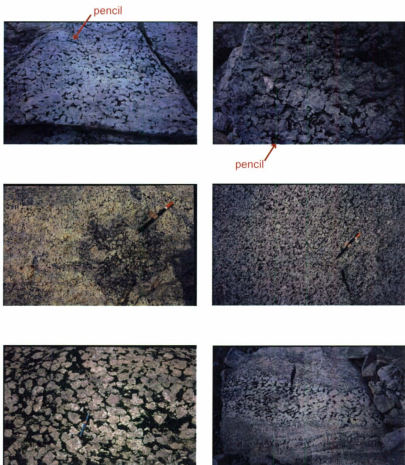


Figure 1-4: Examples of typical Archean megacrystic anorthosite from Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk consisting of euhedral to subhedral, calcic plagioclase crystals surrounded by a mafic matrix. Pencil for scale in all photos. (photos from J.S. Myers).

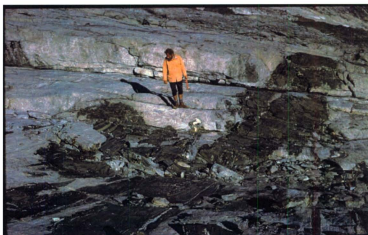


Figure 1-5: Rafts of dark-colored amphibolite country rock within the white-colored anorthosite unit at Fiskenæsset. Man in center of photo for scale (photo from J.S. Myers).

INCREASING DEFORMATION →

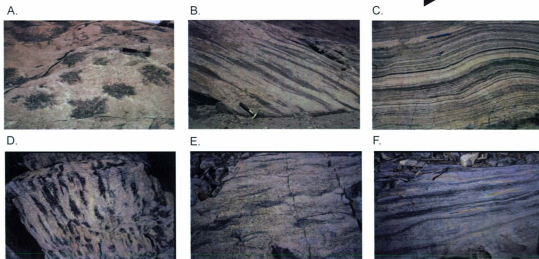


Figure 1-6 Examples of the range of deformation preserved within the anorthosite unit at Majorqap Qava, Fiskenæsset (A-C) and within the upper anorthosite-leucogabbro unit, Nunataarsuk (D-F). (A) Typical, best-preserved anorthosite unit containing undeformed, slightly-recrystallized patches of leucogabbro (dark patches). (B) Recrystallized, deformed anorthosite with schlieren of leucogabbro. (C) Recrystallized, deformed anorthosite with leucogabbro streaked out to form a tectonic banding. (D) Sheared pyroxene oikocryst and plagioclase chadacrysts. (E) Preserved, diffuse layering of mafic material to plagioclase dominated layers within leucocratic leucogabbro. (F) Extremely tectonized leucogabbro with flat, sheared layers of leucogabbro and mafic material. Hammer for scale in A and B. Pencil for scale in C, D, E and F (photos from John Myers).

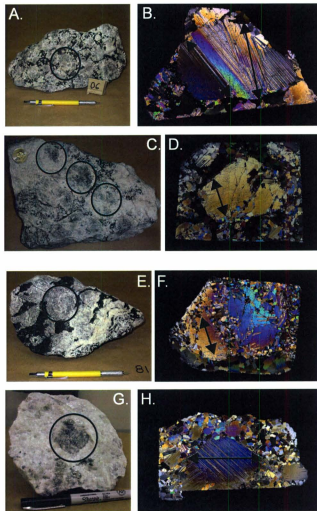


Figure 1-7: Representative leucogabbro (A-F) and anorthosite (G and H) samples from Fiskensæset (C and D, G and H) and Nunataarsuk (A and B, E and F). B, D, F, and H are representative of the areas circled in A, C, E and G (images B, D, F, and H produced using a flat-bed scanner in 'film' mode and two pieces of polarizing film). Arrows in B, D, F, and H are typical transects across a single plagioclase megacryst used for in-situ analyses. The length of each transect in B and H is ~ 1 cm. The length of each transect in D and F is ~ 0.7 cm.

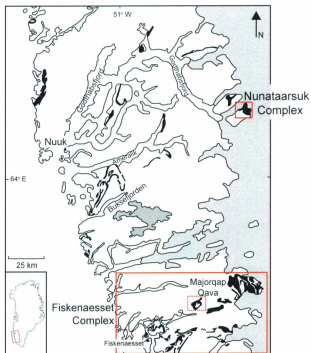


Figure 1-8: General map of southern West Greenland with Archean anorthosite complexes in black. Thick boxes surround the Fiskenaesset and Nunataarsuk regions. The Fiskenaesset samples were all from the Majorqap Qava area, dashed box (Adapted from Owens and Dymek, 1997).

## **Chapter 2: Improved in situ measurements of lead isotopes in silicate glasses by LA-MC-ICPMS using multiple ion counters**

### **Abstract**

A new technique that improves the spatial resolution and quantification limits of the measurement of lead isotope ratios in silicate glasses with < 15 ppm total Pb by LA-MC-ICPMS is presented. The new method provides the capability of making quantitative, in-situ lead isotope measurements on tiny objects of geologic interest such as mineral growth bands, melt inclusions, and accessory minerals, even where they are lead poor. The method allows for the concurrent, static measurement of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  along with  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in five Channeltron ion counters. Standard-sample-standard bracketing using USGS BCR2-G as the calibrant is used to correct for instrumental mass bias. Accuracy and precision of the method was evaluated by replicate analyses of various MPI-DING reference glasses with low lead concentrations (~1 – 11 ppm) and well-determined isotopic ratios. Spot sizes for in situ analyses were as small as 40 – 69  $\mu\text{m}$ , providing better spatial resolution than previous LA-MC-ICPMS results reporting  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . Measured lead isotope ratios for the MPI-DING reference glasses T1-G (11.6 ppm total Pb) and ATHO-G (5.67 ppm total Pb) agree within 0.10% and 0.15% respectively of the preferred values using 40  $\mu\text{m}$  spots. For MPI-DING KL2-G (2.07 ppm total Pb) and ML3B-G (1.38 ppm total Pb) measured  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  agree within 0.75% of the accepted values with typical precisions of < 0.85% (RSD) using 69  $\mu\text{m}$  spots; measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  are within 0.45% of preferred values with

precisions of  $< 0.25\%$  (RSD). These results demonstrate improvement over previous LA-MC-ICPMS data in terms of both quantification limits and spatial resolution, while retaining similar levels of accuracy and precision.

## 2.1 INTRODUCTION

In situ lead isotopic measurements by laser-ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-MC-ICPMS) have the potential to document isotopic variations in tiny objects of geologic interest such as mineral growth bands, melt inclusions, and accessory minerals (*e.g.* Mathez and Waight, 2003; Horstwood et al., 2003; Paul et al., 2005) on the scale of tens of microns. Lead isotope ratios are particularly useful for a variety of applications including Pb-Pb and U-Pb accessory mineral geochronology (*e.g.* Willigers et al., 2002; Simonetti et al., 2006), provenance investigations (*e.g.* Baker et al., 2006; Tyrrell et al., 2006), and petrogenetic interpretations of melt inclusions (*e.g.* Paul et al., 2005). A limiting factor for further development of in situ lead isotope analysis by LA-MC-ICPMS is sensitivity, both for reducing the sampling scale in lead “rich” ( $> 50$  ppm) materials such as alkali feldspars and for extending the technique to lead-poor ( $< 50$  ppm) materials such as plagioclase and melt inclusions, while retaining acceptable levels of analytical precision and accuracy. Another complication is proper procedures to correct for instrumental mass bias. Unlike other isotopic systems such as Hf and Sr, the Pb isotope system does not include an invariant isotope pair that can be used to make the mass bias correction internally for each sample analyzed. Alternative options such as aspirating a thallium tracer solution during laser analysis to monitor the lead fractionation (*e.g.* Horn et al.,



2000; Kosler et al., 2002) or external corrections based on the measured lead isotope ratios of silicate glass reference materials (e.g. Willigers et al., 2002; Paul et al., 2005) must be employed instead. With these latter approaches, however, the potential for mass bias variations as a function of matrix composition must be evaluated carefully.

In most previous LA-MC-ICPMS studies involving lead isotopes, the total lead concentration of the material of interest has been generally greater than ~80 ppm Pb (e.g. Horstwood et al., 2003; Mathez and Waight, 2003). As the total lead concentration of a material decreases, or as the radiogenic lead component increases, the ability to measure lead isotope ratios involving the minor  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope precisely becomes progressively more difficult due to its low relative abundance (~1.4 % of all common lead) and an isobaric interference from  $^{204}\text{Hg}$ . The interference from  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  is potentially very significant for laser analyses where target materials contain more than ~10 ppm Hg, and even for materials with less Hg where lead concentrations are very low (< 5 ppm total Pb). While not all applications involving lead isotopes require  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  analysis, the accurate and precise measurement of radiogenic lead relative to  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  can be especially important in investigations using lead isotopes as tracers for provenance or petrogenetic histories and for U-Pb geochronology, and is thus likely to be a focus of analytical development for some time to come. For instance, Paul et al., (2005) recently presented a LA-MC-ICPMS method for in situ lead isotope analysis by the simultaneous measurement of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  in an ion counter and the lead isotopes of greater abundance in Faraday cups. Simonetti et al., (2005) presented a LA-MC-ICPMS method for in situ U-

Pb geochronology, which measures  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$ , and aspirated  $^{205}\text{Tl}$  and  $^{203}\text{Tl}$  in ion counters, while both  $^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{235}\text{U}$  are measured in Faraday collectors.

We have developed an analytical protocol for LA-MC-ICPMS that allows us to measure lead isotope ratios, including ratios relative to  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , for silicate glasses with total lead concentrations between ~1 to 11 ppm. Lead isotope analyses are determined by static measurement of all lead isotopes and  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in Channeltron ion counters. The  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  measurement is used to correct the isobaric interference from  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . The new method retains similar levels of accuracy and precision for lead isotope ratios when compared to previous LA-MC-ICPMS measurements of silicate glasses but at total lead levels as low as ~1 ppm using 69 to 99  $\mu\text{m}$  spots. This allows the use of smaller laser spot sizes for analysis or the measurement of materials with lower lead concentration than previously possible.

## 2.2 EXPERIMENTAL

### 2.2.1 Samples and Instrumentation

The samples used in this study are geologic reference material (GRM) glasses made from natural silicate rocks: USGS BCR2-G and MPI-DING T1-G, ATHO-G, K12-G, and ML3B-G. Each glass has a well-defined lead isotopic ratio and chemical composition, with total lead concentrations ranging from ~1 to 11 ppm (Jochum et al., 2000, 2005a, 2006a). Small separates of each silicate glass were mounted in 10 or 25 mm diameter epoxy resin mounts. Once the epoxy had cured, the mount was ground to a flat surface and polished using diamond abrasive, exposing a cross-section of each glass.

Prior to in situ analysis great care was given to eliminate any potential surface contamination of the samples from lead in the ambient environment. Each epoxy mount was cleaned in an ultrasonic bath for approximately 15 minutes with double-distilled water, deionized and purified (to 18 mega-ohm  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) by a Milli-Q water system. The surface of each mount was then scrubbed with double-distilled  $\sim 8\text{N}$   $\text{HNO}_3$  followed by a Milli-Q  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  rinse. The mount was left to dry in a positive-pressure air box prior to loading into the laser ablation sample cell.

In the ICPMS, clean torch parts and cones resulted in lower instrumental backgrounds on all the lead masses of interest and enhanced signal stability; therefore, the torch, injector, quartz shield, glass T-piece used to mix the He and Ar gases, sampler and skimmer cones were all cleaned prior to each analytical session. Torch parts and glassware were soaked in a  $\sim 0.5\text{N}$   $\text{HNO}_3$  bath and subsequently rinsed with double-distilled  $\sim 8\text{N}$   $\text{HNO}_3$  followed by a Milli-Q  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  rinse. Residue from prior ablations was removed from both the sample and skimmer cones with a cotton-tipped applicator and each cone was rinsed with deionized  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  prior to installation on the instrument.

All analyses were performed on a Finnigan Neptune double-focusing MC-ICPMS equipped with 8 multiple (Channeltron) ion counter devices (MICs). In order to measure the low total lead concentrations of the glasses used in our experiments, concurrent, static measurements of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the glass GRMs were made in 5 ion counters mounted onto the low mass (L4) Faraday cup. The ion counters are in fixed positions, spaced specifically to collect the four lead and  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  isotopes of this study. The noise levels on plateaus of analyte signals measured by the

MICs are much improved when compared to Faraday detectors when dealing with materials with low lead concentrations (Figure 2-1). Typical instrument operating conditions and collector assignments for the analyses of materials with low lead concentrations are listed in Tables 2-1 and 2-2.  $^{235}\text{U}$  is monitored in an ion counter attached to a high mass Faraday cup. These data are not relevant to the study of known reference materials and are not presented here, but would be important in the study of materials where lead isotope ratios of minerals may have been modified by in-growth of radiogenic lead by the decay of U after crystallization. Gas flow, torch position, and lens focus potentials were all adjusted to achieve a typical sensitivity of 23,000 cps/ppm  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  for in situ analyses of BCR2-G with a 40  $\mu\text{m}$  spot (~11 ppm total Pb) as well as optimal peak shape and peak overlap. Signal intensities during in situ analysis were typically less than ~5 mV, or ~312,500 cps, in all ion counters (for BCR2-G with a 40  $\mu\text{m}$  spot, ~230,000 cps  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  was typical). Argon gas was run through an activated charcoal filter made by Frontier GeoSciences Inc. placed in the gas line to the ICP torch, in order to reduce contaminant mercury levels in the gas. The dry sorbent in the trap collects all vapor phase Hg in both the elemental and oxidized forms.

The dark noise and operation voltage for each ion counter were determined twice over the time period of method development. The typical dark noise measurement for a single ion counter did not exceed 0.0060 cps. A plateau calibration curve (cps vs. voltage) was constructed to determine the operation voltage for each ion counter using a PCL script within the NEPTUNE operating software. This procedure was done to ensure that the relative yield values between ion counters remained within 20 %. To construct

the calibration curve for an individual ion counter, a signal was focused on the ion counter and the operation voltage of the ion counter was increased in 30 V steps. The output signal of the ion counter for each step was recorded in counts per second. The operation voltage for each ion counter was determined by observing the voltage representative of the point on a plateau calibration curve where the change in signal intensity (cps) no longer significantly increases with a corresponding increase in the detector voltage. The operation voltage can be different for each ion counter so a plateau calibration curve must be constructed for each individual ion counter. Operation voltages for the MICs during method development varied from 2000V to 2800V.

The MICs were cross-calibrated prior to each analytical period to determine the relative yield value for each ion counter referenced to IC1. The relative yield of each ion counter was determined in solution mode, using the  $^{235}\text{U}$  signal from the NEPTUNE tune solution, in order to maximize signal stability and attain the best precision. A dynamic peak jumping method was used to determine the relative yield for the MICs. A reference signal of ~100,000 cps was sequentially placed in each of the 8 ion counters using an integration time of 4.194 seconds. This dynamic cycle was repeated 10 times. The relative yield value for each ion counter was then determined by normalizing the average of the measured signal intensities for each ion counter to the average response of IC1. If the relative yield values were not within 80% of IC1 the operation voltage on the ion counter was adjusted.

A GeoLas laser ablation system linked to the MC-ICPMS was used for the in situ analyses. This system includes a Lambda Physik ComPex Pro 110 ArF excimer laser

operating at a wavelength of 193nm and a pulse width of 20 ns. Typical operating conditions for the GeoLas system are included in Table 2-1. A laser fluence of approximately 5 J/cm<sup>2</sup> and a repetition rate of 10 Hz were used for all glass analyses. The spot size of the analyses ranged from 40 to 99 µm, depending on the total lead concentration. Samples were ablated in helium gas, which reduces sample re-deposition and elemental fractionation (Günther and Heinrich, 1999) while increasing sensitivity for 193 nm ablation (Eggins et al., 1998). Mercury was filtered from the helium using gold-coated glass wool placed on the helium gas line feeding the ablation cell.

### **2.2.2 Analytical Routine and Data Reduction**

A standard – sample – standard bracketing approach was employed to correct for instrumental mass bias for two reasons: (1) the lead isotopic system does not have an invariant isotopic pair that can be used to monitor fractionation and (2) the configuration of ion counters on our instrument does not allow us to monitor mass bias relative to an aspirated thallium tracer solution of known isotopic composition using MICs in static mode. A Tl tracer solution collected in Faraday collectors could be employed but this produces additional errors associated with cross calibration of Faraday and ion counter cups. BCR2-G was chosen as the external calibrant because its lead concentration (~11 ppm total Pb) is sufficiently low to measure in the MICs without saturating the detectors, but high enough to provide good counting statistics on the lead analyte signals. Its concentration is also suitably matched to the lead concentrations of the MPI-DING glasses used in this study and the concentration range expected in plagioclase feldspars and melt inclusions. The following GeoREM preferred values (<http://georem.mpch->

mainz.gwdg.de/; Jochum et al., 2000; Elburg et al., 2005; Paul et al., 2005) for BCR2-G were adopted:  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 18.765 \pm 0.007$  (1 SD);  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 15.626 \pm 0.006$  (1 SD);  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 38.73 \pm 0.02$  (1 SD);  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} = 0.833 \pm 0.001$  (1 SD);  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} = 2.066 \pm 0.001$  (1 SD). The compositional homogeneity of the lead isotopic composition of BCR2-G is better than 0.1% for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , 0.02% for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , and 0.05% for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  based on bulk analyses of 100 milligram aliquots by solution-based MC-ICPMS (Elburg et al., 2005). These data do not prove that the lead isotopic composition of BCR2-G is homogeneous at the  $\mu\text{g}$ -scale sampled by the 40 – 99  $\mu\text{m}$  spots used in this investigation but our in situ analyses of this glass suggest that this is the case to better than 1%: for 15 replicate analyses with a 49  $\mu\text{m}$  spot,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vary by 0.075%, 0.47%, 0.45%, 0.36% (RSD), respectively.

The duration of each standard and sample analysis was ~ 90 seconds or 90 cycles using an integration time of ~1 sec/cycle. The first 40 seconds (cycles) were used to measure the background count rates with the laser off followed by 50 seconds of laser ablation monitoring the  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  isotopes. The lead isotope measurement of every three unknown samples were preceded and followed by three measurements of BCR2-G. On-line corrections for both yield and dark noise were performed using the NEPTUNE software prior to downloading the measured mass intensities into an Excel spreadsheet for off-line subtraction of mean gas background intensities from the time-resolved signal intensities for each isotope,  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  interference

corrections on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , lead isotope ratio calculations, and instrumental mass bias correction by standard – sample – standard bracketing.

Signal intensities were corrected for gas background and the  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  interference on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  using two different off-line data reduction methods. For  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ , both methods subtract the average gas backgrounds, measured with the laser off, for each isotope from their respective measurements made in each cycle during laser ablation. The  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  and  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  background corrections are handled quite differently, however. In particular, in Method 1,  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  is calculated from the relative natural abundances of the mercury isotopes and a mass bias factor determined from the observed  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$ , either (1) measured in the gas background at the start of a day's laser ablation session using a cup configuration in which  $^{200}\text{Hg}$  is collected in IC1 and  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in IC2, or (2)  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  is assumed to be the natural ratio recommended by IUPAC (Rosman and Taylor, 1997). In Method 2, the  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  of the gas background is determined from measurements of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg}+\text{Pb})$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  made with the laser off prior to each analysis. The advantages and disadvantages of the two methods are compared in light of the results for the MPI-DING glasses below.

In detail, Method 1 is very similar to the off-line  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ -correction procedure presented in Horstwood et al. (2003) and Paul et al. (2005). The mean gas background measured just prior to ablation is subtracted from each of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  signals measured during ablation. As noted by Paul et al. (2005), this background correction removes the  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  in the gas from the  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  measurement: any residual  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  derived from the sample itself or due to variation in the



background is typically less than a few percent of the total measured  $^{204}\text{Hg}$ -mass. To correct for this small, residual isobaric mercury interference on the measured  $^{204}\text{Hg}$ -mass, and calculate the  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  in the sample, the residual  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  is calculated from the natural  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  ( $\sim 0.2301$ ; IUPAC) and the background-corrected  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  measurement in the sample. A mass bias correction may be applied to the natural  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  using the exponential law and a mass bias factor ( $\beta$ ; Albarede et al., 2004) derived from measurements of the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  in the gas background made prior to a day's session of analyses. The  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  are calculated for each measurement and a 2-sigma outlier rejection is performed prior to averaging the lead isotopic ratios.

Several attempts were made to measure the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  in the ion counters in order to use Method 1. However, the measured  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  was unrealistically high compared to the natural  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  for reasons that are not clear. Thus we could not calculate a mass bias factor for the  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$ . Simonetti et al. (2005) noted that their measured  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the gas background and during ablation was lower than the accepted, natural value. Combining these two observations suggests a possible isobaric interference on the  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  that would lower the measured  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  while increasing the measured  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$ . Paul et al. (2005) noted that the correction of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , after gas background subtraction, is small for silicate materials, which have low  $\text{Hg}/\text{Pb}$  ratios, and so errors on the measurement of the mass bias factor for  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  do not produce significant errors on the derived  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  determinations. Therefore, our Method 1 results for lead isotope ratios measured on silicate glasses assume no mass bias on the calculated

$^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$ . In order to circumvent the problems associated with measuring the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  we developed a new data reduction procedure, Method 2, to correct for the isobaric interference of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ .

Method 2 proceeds as follows: for each gas background measurement cycle,  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  is calculated from the measured  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , assuming that the actual isotopic composition of lead in the gas is given by the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for modern lead ( $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 38.63 \pm 0.98$ ; Stacey and Kramers, 1975). The  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  in the gas is then determined by subtraction of the calculated  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  from the measured  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$ , and a calculated  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the gas is derived using the measured  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the gas. With both  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the gas now established, the  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  for each laser ablation measurement cycle is determined by subtracting  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  from the measured  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  using the measured  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  during laser ablation and the average  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  for the gas background. The resulting  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  is then background corrected using the average  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  calculated for the gas background. Lead isotope ratio calculations and outlier rejection procedures are performed as in Method 1.

The lead isotope ratios calculated by both Methods 1 and 2 are corrected for instrumental mass bias and detector drift using a standard – sample – standard bracketing approach (Albarede et al., 2004). The lead isotope ratios determined for the set of three BCR2-G standards run before and after each set of 3 unknowns are averaged together. The lead isotope ratios for the unknowns are linearly interpolated, anchored by the average value of the three standards.

## 2.3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 2-3 presents the mean lead isotope ratios for the MPI-DING reference glasses analyzed over five analytical sessions. Lead isotope ratios calculated by both Method 1 and Method 2 are listed separately. Results for every Pb isotope ratio measurement are listed in Tables S2-1, S2-2, S2-3 and S2-4 at the end of this chapter. Individual analyses are plotted in Figure 2-2.

In order to demonstrate the improved spatial resolution possible with the MIC collection procedure while maintaining similar levels of precision when compared to previous methods, spot sizes of only 40 and 49  $\mu\text{m}$  were used for the two glasses with higher lead abundances, T1G and ATHO-G (11.6 ppm Pb,  $n = 11$ , and 5.67 ppm Pb,  $n = 16$ , respectively; Jochum et al., 2000; 2005a; 2006a). This is significantly smaller than the spot size of 200  $\mu\text{m}$  used by Mathez and Waight (2003) with a Faraday-only collection procedure, and 93  $\mu\text{m}$  used by Paul et al. (2005) with a combined Faraday-IC collection array. Even with the small spot, mean values for lead isotope ratios involving  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  for T1G calculated by both Method 1 and Method 2 are all within 0.10% of the preferred values (Jochum et al., 2006a) with external precisions of less than 0.5% (RSD). The measured lead isotope ratios for ATHO-G are highly variable ( $\pm 2.4\%$ ), perhaps reflecting intrinsic heterogeneity in the glass at this sampling scale (49  $\mu\text{m}$ ) or possible matrix effects due to compositional differences between ATHO-G (rhyolitic bulk composition) and the calibration standard BCR2-G (basaltic bulk composition); yet the average values for all lead isotope ratios are all within 0.30% of the preferred values

(Jochum et al., 2006a) for Method 1, and within 0.15% of the preferred values (Jochum et al., 2006a) for Method 2.

Analyses of the two MPI-DING glasses with lower lead contents, KL2-G and ML3B-G (2.07 ppm Pb,  $n = 21$ , and 1.38 ppm Pb,  $n = 21$ , respectively; Jochum et al., 2000, 2005a, 2006a) were made with spots sizes of 69 and 99  $\mu\text{m}$  in order to compare our results with previous LA-MC-ICPMS results at similar levels of spatial resolution. Using a 99  $\mu\text{m}$  spot, lead isotope ratios involving  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  for KL2-G calculated by both Method 1 and Method 2 are excellent, with all mean ratios within 0.20% of the preferred values (Jochum et al., 2006a) and external precisions of less than 0.5% (RSD). With the 69  $\mu\text{m}$  spot, accuracy is still  $\sim 0.3\%$  or better, although the precision degrades to almost 1.5% for Method 1 and almost 1% for Method 2. For 99- $\mu\text{m}$  spot analyses of ML3B-G, lead isotope ratios involving  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  give mean values that are within 0.7% and 0.4% of the preferred values (Jochum et al., 2006a) using Methods 1 and 2, respectively. Precisions are better than 1% (RSD) for both methods. Using a 69  $\mu\text{m}$  spot, the accuracy of the mean ratios degrades to 1.6% for Method 1 and 0.7% for Method 2. Precision for Method 1 approaches 1.5% (RSD) but remains at  $\sim 1\%$  (RSD) for Method 2.

For all spot sizes in all glasses, measurements of  $^{207,208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  are as accurate and precise as the  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , and often much more so, attesting to the error associated with measurement of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . The difference is most marked where the lead content of the glass is very low. For instance, in ML3B-G, using a 69  $\mu\text{m}$  spot,  $^{207,208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  measurements are accurate and precise to  $\sim 0.25\%$  (RSD) or better.

### 2.3.1 Data Reduction Methods

Method 1 and Method 2 provide different approaches to correct for the isobaric interference of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . The fundamental difference between the two methods being Method 1 requires the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  to be independently measured and/or assumed constant throughout the analytical session. There is general agreement between the lead isotope ratios calculated by Method 1 and Method 2 (Fig. 2-2), especially between the two glasses with higher lead concentrations, yet we prefer to use Method 2 to calculate lead isotope ratios using the MICs because it eliminates the need to directly measure, or assume, the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$ . Also, Method 2 can be applied to materials with a range of Hg/Pb ratios as demonstrated below.

As previously stated, Paul et al. (2005) noted the  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  derived from the silicate glass is generally only a very small percentage (~1 %) of the total 204 signal during ablation, making minor variations on the measurement of the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  and the mass bias factor calculated from this measurement insignificant in relation to the magnitude of the correction being made. The typical average measured  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  intensities for all glasses analyzed in this study are less than 0.5. Figure 2-3 demonstrates that at  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  intensities similar to those of the silicate glasses used in this study, variations in the mass bias factor ( $\beta$ ) calculated from the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  have little effect on the accuracy of the final lead isotope ratio calculation. Method 1 begins to break down as the  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  intensities from the sample increases and the  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  interference correction on the 204-mass during ablation becomes significant. For matrices with  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  intensities greater than ~2, variation of the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  mass bias factor can decrease the

accuracy of lead isotope ratios calculated using Method 1 beyond acceptable limits, particularly where the variation of the mass bias factor ( $\beta$ ) exceeds  $\pm 0.5$  units. In this study, for instance, the within run fluctuation of the mass bias factor calculated for the measured  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  of BCR2-G is  $\pm 0.8$  units. While the precise determination of the  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  and the subsequent variation of the Hg-mass bias correction is not an issue for most silicates with typically low Hg/Pb ratios, this correction could become quite large for other geologic matrices such as sulfide minerals, which commonly have higher Hg/Pb ratios. For these reasons we favor using Method 2 for determining lead isotope ratios from LA-MC-ICPMS data.

### **2.3.2 Analytical Uncertainties**

The analytical uncertainty of the all ion counter method to measure lead isotope ratios is dependant on many factors including the yield calibration of the MICs; detector linearity; the dark noise measurement for the MICs; the assumption that the lead isotope ratios in the gas are representative of the Stacey and Kramers (1975) estimate of modern lead; the homogeneity of the geologic reference material used for external normalization; and any within-run matrix effects or fluctuation of instrumental mass bias. The relative ion counter yield values varied from 0.1% to 0.5% over the duration of the  $\sim 10$  minute yield calibration measurement. The uncertainty on the yield values for each ion counter can strongly influence the accuracy of the final lead isotope ratios, yet uncertainties associated with both the yield and the detector linearity are applied to all analysis, which are monitored by the bracketing process. Without an internal monitor, such as an aspirated TI-tracer solution, any potential within-run matrix effects or instrumental mass

bias cannot be determined, emphasizing the importance of using a homogeneous, matrix-matched external calibrant.

The theoretical limits of precision are governed by Poisson counting statistics, detector dark noise and the uncertainty on the measurement of the blank. When determining the theoretical limits of precision for lead isotope measurements using MICs, the uncertainties associated with ion counter gain and the correction for the isobaric interference of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on the 204-mass must also be considered. Figure 2-4 compares the calculated theoretical precision with the observed internal precision for the MPI-DING glasses analyzed in this study plotted as a function of total  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  intensity. The theoretical precision will quickly degrade at total  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  intensities of less than 0.001 volts. The minimum theoretical limits of precision for lead isotope ratios measured using MICs are approached at lower total  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  count rates than for a Faraday-ion counter cup configurations (Paul et al., 2005) because the uncertainty budget of the MIC method is dominated by uncertainties in the ion counter gain, which are large only at very low  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  count rates. Internal precision of measured lead isotope ratios for the MPI-DING glasses plot well above the theoretical curves. This reflects additional errors not included in the theoretical calculations, including matrix effects, spot-to-spot heterogeneity in the lead isotopic composition of the BCR2-G calibrant and fluctuations in mass bias factors over short time scales (*i.e.* between individual analyses).

### 2.3.3 Comparison With Other Investigations

It is difficult to compare the results of our lead isotope measurements of four MPI-DING reference glasses presented in this study to previous investigations due to

differences in instrumentation, analysis protocol, and ablation parameters. Using 5 MICs operating in static mode we were able to produce results with similar or improved precisions and accuracies to previous single-collector laser-ablation sector-field ICPMS (LA-SF-ICPMS; Jochum et al., 2005b; 2006b) and LA-MC-ICPMS (Paul et al., 2005) studies while improving the spatial resolution and quantification limits of these previous investigations. Smaller spot sizes (40 – 69  $\mu\text{m}$  vs. 93 – 200  $\mu\text{m}$ ) than previously reported could be used for ATHO-G, KL2-G, and ML3B-G due to the high signal to noise ratio of the ion counters. The use of MICs to measure all lead isotopes allows us to measure both  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  for samples with low lead concentrations (< 10 ppm total Pb) or for samples where high spatial resolution is required. Using MICs to measure all lead isotopes allows us to use a reference material (BCR2-G), which has a lead concentration typical of the lead-poor materials being analyzed, to cross-calibrate detectors and as bracketing reference material to correct for instrumental mass bias. Standards with low lead concentrations can be used because it is not necessary to produce a signal of at least ~5mV (~310,000 cps) to be measured on a Faraday detector for Faraday-ion counter cross calibration, a common requirement of most MC-ICPMS lead isotope cup configurations used previously.

Figure 2-5 provides a comparison between the external precision of both  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  determined using Method 2 presented in the study with previous LA-MC-ICPMS and single-collector, LA-SF-ICPMS investigations. For each lead isotope ratio considered, the data are split into 2 categories: one for analysis using spot sizes between 40 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the second for analysis using spot sizes between 90



and 120  $\mu\text{m}$ . Measurements from studies using significantly larger spot sizes ( $>120 \mu\text{m}$ ) are not considered in these comparison plots.

For lead isotope ratio measurements using spot sizes between 40 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$  the external precision for our  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  measurements for ATHO-G (5.67 ppm total Pb) TIG (11.6 ppm total Pb) is slightly higher, yet similar to, the single-collector LA-SF-ICPMS data of Jochum et al. (2005b) and Jochum et al. (2006b). However there is significant improvement in the reproducibility of the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for ML3B-G and ATHO-G using the method presented in this study compared to previous single-collector LA-SF-ICPMS measurements for spot sizes between 40 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$ . Our method also presents improvement in the external reproducibility of both  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for both KL2-G (2.07 ppm total Pb) and ML3B-G (1.38 ppm Pb) for spot sizes ranging from 90 to 120  $\mu\text{m}$  when compared to other LA-MC-ICPMS (Paul et al., 2005) and single-collector LA-SF-ICPMS (Jochum et al., 2005b, 2006b) methods.

## 2.4 CONCLUSION

The ability to measure in situ lead isotope ratios in materials with very low lead concentrations is a useful tool for accessory mineral geochronology, provenance investigations, and petrogenetic interpretations of melt inclusions. A new method to measure lead isotopes for materials of low lead concentrations ( $\leq 15 \text{ ppm}$ ) at the scale of tens of microns has been presented. In situ lead isotope measurements using an array of Channeltron ion counters produces results with similar or improved precisions and accuracies compared to mixed Faraday-ion counter multi-collector and single-collector, sector-field measurements of lead isotope ratios in silicate glasses from  $\sim 1$  to  $\sim 11 \text{ ppm}$

total Pb using spot sizes from 40 to 69  $\mu\text{m}$ . Because of the high signal to noise ratio of the Channeltrons compared to Faraday detectors, quantitative  $^{203}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{203}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  can be measured in materials of very low lead concentrations ( $< 5$  ppm) and at higher spatial resolution than previously presented while maintaining precisions and accuracies within acceptable limits. Precise and accurate lead isotope ratios can now be determined in situ for lead-poor minerals such as plagioclase, or for mineral growth bands or melt inclusions, which are more lead-rich but where higher spatial resolution is required.

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**Table 2-1** Typical operating conditions for the Finnigan  
Neptune MC-ICP-MS and GeoLas laser ablation system

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Finnigan Neptune MC-ICP-MS	
Operation power	1200 W
RF power	1200 W
HV	10 kV
Cool gas flow	16 l min <sup>-1</sup>
Auxiliary gas flow	0.7 l min <sup>-1</sup>
Ar make-up gas flow	0.9 l min <sup>-1</sup>
Cones	Ni
GeoLas laser ablation system	
Lambda Physik Compex 110 Ar F excimer	193 nm
Laser fluence	~5 J cm <sup>-2</sup>
Spot size	40 - 99 µm
Repetition rate	10 Hz
He carrier gas	1.2 l min <sup>-1</sup>

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**Table 2-2** Finnigan Neptune collector assignments for Pb isotope analysis

Collector <sup>a</sup> isotope	IC1	IC2	IC3	IC4	IC5	L4	L3	L2	L1	C	H1	H2	H3	IC6	H4	IC7	IC8
<sup>205</sup> Hg																	
<sup>206</sup> (Hg+Pb)																	
<sup>206</sup> Pb																	
<sup>207</sup> Pb																	
<sup>208</sup> Pb																	
<sup>238</sup> U																	

<sup>a</sup> L4 to L1, C, and H1 to H4 are Faraday cups. IC1 to IC5 are ion counters fixed to Faraday cup L4. IC6 is an ion counter fixed to Faraday cup H3. IC7 and IC8 are ion counters fixed to Faraday cup H4.

Table 2.3.1 and coverage ratio values for samples measured in this study

		75%	75%	75%	75%	75%
		75%	75%	75%	75%	75%
<b>MP1-T1-G 11.6 ± 1.5 µg g<sup>-1</sup></b>						
	Mean	18.728	15.679	36.973	6.07724	2.0010
Method 1	Mean	18.736	15.672	36.984	6.06668	2.00151
40 µm spot	S.D.	0.066	0.061	0.162	0.001	0.004
(n = 11)	Accuracy	0.04%	0.04%	0.03%	0.07%	0.02%
283d		0.70%	0.70%	0.03%	0.22%	0.36%
Method 2	Mean	18.728	15.663	36.965	6.06661	2.00150
40 µm spot	S.D.	0.077	0.060	0.180	0.001	0.004
(n = 11)	Accuracy	0.00%	0.10%	0.02%	0.08%	0.02%
283d		0.82%	0.90%	0.97%	0.23%	0.37%
<b>MP1-AT10 5.67 ± 0.47 µg g<sup>-1</sup></b>						
	Mean	18.383	15.400	36.111	6.04280	2.0736
Method 1	Mean	18.387	15.444	36.098	6.04129	2.07303
40 µm spot	S.D.	0.133	0.135	0.361	0.001	0.003
(n = 10)	Accuracy	0.09%	0.23%	0.14%	0.09%	0.26%
283d		2.10%	1.98%	1.91%	0.31%	0.33%
Method 2	Mean	18.409	15.402	36.140	6.04131	2.07345
40 µm spot	S.D.	0.218	0.175	0.417	0.002	0.007
(n = 10)	Accuracy	0.14%	0.03%	0.10%	0.09%	0.02%
283d		2.36%	2.27%	2.19%	0.44%	0.72%
<b>MP1-K12-G 2.07 ± 0.10 µg g<sup>-1</sup></b>						
	Mean	19.030	15.632	36.524	6.02140	2.0243
Method 1	Mean	19.053	15.633	36.501	6.02135	2.02745
60 µm spot	S.D.	0.260	0.196	0.500	0.001	0.004
(n = 21)	Accuracy	0.12%	0.03%	0.13%	0.01%	0.10%
283d		2.82%	2.53%	2.39%	0.34%	0.40%
Method 2	Mean	19.050	15.620	36.062	6.02037	2.02770
60 µm spot	S.D.	0.054	0.053	0.154	0.001	0.005
(n = 6)	Accuracy	0.10%	0.00%	0.20%	0.13%	0.17%
283d		0.97%	0.60%	0.80%	0.18%	0.26%
Method 2	Mean	18.974	15.581	36.453	6.02136	2.02757
60 µm spot	S.D.	0.152	0.130	0.323	0.001	0.004
(n = 21)	Accuracy	0.10%	0.13%	0.18%	0.01%	0.15%
283d		1.61%	1.67%	1.69%	0.35%	0.42%
Method 2	Mean	19.039	15.612	36.503	6.02038	2.02780
60 µm spot	S.D.	0.058	0.054	0.153	0.001	0.003
(n = 6)	Accuracy	0.05%	0.13%	0.15%	0.13%	0.17%
283d		0.61%	0.60%	0.78%	0.17%	0.26%
<b>MP1-M1-JE 1.30 ± 0.07 µg g<sup>-1</sup></b>						
	Mean	18.720	15.400	36.464	6.0336	2.0542
Method 1	Mean	18.521	15.368	37.014	6.02665	2.04004
60 µm spot	S.D.	0.253	0.210	0.514	0.001	0.005
(n = 21)	Accuracy	1.49%	1.49%	1.89%	0.48%	0.50%
283d		2.73%	2.73%	2.71%	0.34%	0.53%
Method 2	Mean	18.646	15.614	36.671	6.02961	2.05291
60 µm spot	S.D.	0.176	0.155	0.347	0.002	0.003
(n = 6)	Accuracy	0.67%	0.22%	0.13%	0.43%	0.06%
283d		1.87%	1.99%	1.79%	0.42%	0.27%
Method 2	Mean	18.607	15.577	36.262	6.02966	2.04769
60 µm spot	S.D.	0.174	0.146	0.364	0.002	0.003
(n = 21)	Accuracy	0.18%	0.60%	0.74%	0.45%	0.14%
283d		1.86%	1.99%	1.99%	0.37%	0.53%
Method 2	Mean	18.708	15.591	36.539	6.02985	2.05273
60 µm spot	S.D.	0.165	0.150	0.362	0.002	0.003
(n = 6)	Accuracy	0.36%	0.06%	0.04%	0.43%	0.07%
283d		1.76%	2.04%	1.89%	0.45%	0.31%

\* 95% values in bold are preferred reference values from Isachen et al. (2006a)

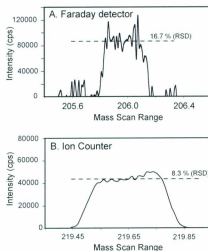


Figure 2 - 1: Peak shapes of  $^{206}\text{Pb}$  from a SRM 981 standard solution of 0.5 ppm total Pb measured on a (A) Faraday detector and a (B) Channeltron ion counter. The x-axis corresponds to the mass range over which the peak was measured with the center value representing the axial mass of the collector array. The noise level for the plateau of the  $^{206}\text{Pb}$  signal collected in the Faraday detector (16.7 % RSD, 1-sigma) is double that of the noise level for the plateau of the  $^{206}\text{Pb}$  signal collected in the ion counter (8.3 % RSD, 1-sigma). A beam of equal intensity was measured in each detector, yet the scale is off-set by a factor of ~2 due to the detectors not being cross-calibrated prior to measurement.



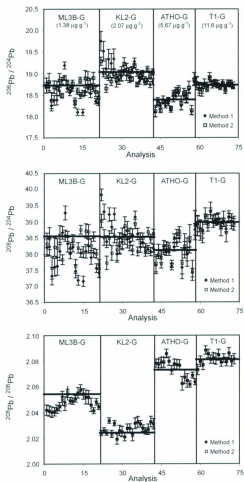


Figure 2-2: LA-MC-ICPMS analysis of lead isotope ratios in the four MPI-DING glasses used in the study, arranged from left to right in order of increasing lead concentration. Solid horizontal lines indicate the preferred lead isotope values (Jochum et al., 2006a) for each glass. Lead isotope ratios for each analysis are calculated using both Method 1 (filled diamonds) and Method 2 (open squares). There is general agreement between the Method 1 and 2 results and the preferred values for the glasses with higher lead concentrations (ATHO-G and T1-G) for the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$ . There is more scatter and larger discrepancies between the 2 methods for the 2 glasses with lower concentrations (ML3B-G and KL2-G) but, in general, Method 2 produces more accurate and precise results than Method 1.

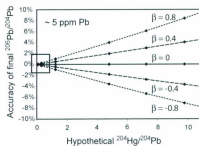


Figure 2-3: Plot of accuracy of the final  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  as a function of hypothetical  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and various mass bias factors ( $B$ ) for a material of approximately 5 ppm Pb. The box highlights the typical Hg/Pb ratios for silicate glasses used in our study, which is  $< 0.5$ .

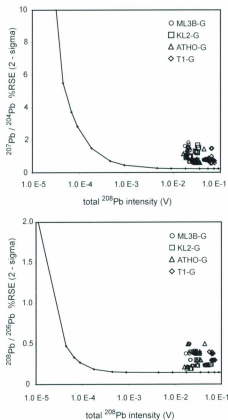


Figure 2-4: Theoretical limits of precision expressed as % RSE (2-sigma), for the measurement of lead isotope ratios using MICs are defined by the solid line. The observed internal precision of lead isotope ratio measurements for MPI-DING glasses of varying total lead concentrations presented in this study are also shown. Uncertainties due to counting statistics, dark noise, background subtraction, ion counter yield, and the  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  correction on the 204-mass are all included in the calculation of the theoretical curves.

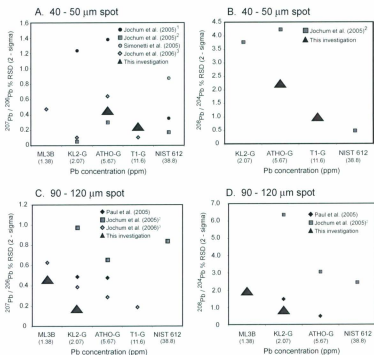


Figure 2-5: Comparison of the external precision of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  as a function of spot size in this study and other LA-MC-ICPMS and single-collector LA-SF-ICPMS investigations. (A) and (B) compare analyses using spot sizes ranging from 40 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , while (C) and (D) compare the reproducibility of measurements using spot sizes between 90 and 120  $\mu\text{m}$ . <sup>1</sup>Measurements using Escan mode. <sup>2</sup>Measurements using combined Escan and Bscan modes. <sup>3</sup>Only 193nm data considered.

Table S2-1: Pb isotope ratio values<sup>a</sup> for T1-G

Experiment	Spot Size	$\frac{{}^{203}\text{Pb}}{{}^{205}\text{Pb}}$	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	$\frac{{}^{207}\text{Pb}}{{}^{205}\text{Pb}}$	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	$\frac{{}^{208}\text{Pb}}{{}^{205}\text{Pb}}$	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	$\frac{{}^{207}\text{Pb}}{{}^{208}\text{Pb}}$	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	$\frac{{}^{208}\text{Pb}}{{}^{207}\text{Pb}}$	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	
Preferred Values <sup>c</sup>		18.728	0.004	15.679	0.004	38.973	0.008	0.83724	0.00010	2.0810	0.0005	
d601a10	T1G-1	40	18.773	0.155	15.730	0.117	38.872	0.315	0.83870	0.001	2.07324	0.004
d601a11	T1G-2	40	18.634	0.138	15.576	0.120	38.734	0.316	0.83611	0.001	2.07967	0.004
d601a12	T1G-3	40	18.622	0.157	15.555	0.120	38.657	0.318	0.83584	0.001	2.07710	0.004
d601b16	T1G-4	40	18.739	0.050	15.658	0.050	39.126	0.102	0.83578	0.001	2.08842	0.003
d601b17	T1G-5	40	18.657	0.051	15.608	0.050	38.905	0.099	0.83663	0.001	2.08577	0.003
d601b18	T1G-6	40	18.894	0.051	15.821	0.050	39.313	0.106	0.83752	0.001	2.08135	0.003
d603a04	T1G-1	40	18.773	0.057	15.672	0.060	39.077	0.130	0.83540	0.001	2.08241	0.004
d603a05	T1G-2	40	18.774	0.081	15.686	0.074	39.068	0.137	0.83585	0.001	2.08164	0.004
d603a06	T1G-3	40	18.750	0.092	15.695	0.083	39.082	0.145	0.83718	0.001	2.08481	0.004
d603b04	T1G-4	40	18.683	0.068	15.635	0.058	38.826	0.270	0.83710	0.001	2.07897	0.003
d603b05	T1G-5	40	18.776	0.073	15.714	0.061	39.078	0.240	0.83710	0.001	2.08207	0.003
d603b06	T1G-6	40	18.600	0.074	15.579	0.060	38.662	0.301	0.83775	0.001	2.07932	0.003
d603d22	T1G-7	40	18.769	0.076	15.705	0.064	39.138	0.188	0.83693	0.001	2.08620	0.004
d603d23	T1G-8	40	18.760	0.081	15.678	0.067	39.000	0.233	0.83582	0.001	2.07986	0.004
d603d24	T1G-9	40	18.717	0.080	15.633	0.065	38.943	0.217	0.83540	0.001	2.08163	0.004

<sup>a</sup>calculated using Method 2<sup>b</sup>preferred reference values from Jochum *et al.* (2006a)

Table S2.2: Pb isotope ratio values<sup>a</sup> for ATHO-G

Table S2-21. Pb isotope ratio values for ATHO-03																			
Experiment	Spot Size	$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$		$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$		SE (1 $\sigma$ )		$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$		SE (1 $\sigma$ )		$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$		SE (1 $\sigma$ )		$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$		SE (1 $\sigma$ )	
		Value	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	Value	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	Value	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	Value	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	Value	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	Value	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	Value	SE (1 $\sigma$ )	Value	SE (1 $\sigma$ )		
Preferred Values <sup>a</sup>		18.383	0.004	15.480	0.004	38.111	0.003	0.84204	0.00019	2.0730	0.0006								
de01606	ATHO-3	40	18.123	0.131	15.298	0.100	37.708	0.268	0.84327	0.001	2.07836	0.003							
de03a22	ATHO-1	40	18.290	0.055	15.345	0.056	37.993	0.142	0.83920	0.001	2.07802	0.004							
de03a23	ATHO-2	40	18.137	0.055	15.261	0.056	37.698	0.141	0.84173	0.001	2.07932	0.004							
de03a24	ATHO-3	40	18.343	0.056	15.420	0.056	38.128	0.152	0.84121	0.001	2.07948	0.004							
de03b10	ATHO-4	40	18.346	0.052	15.434	0.051	38.259	0.114	0.84136	0.001	2.08579	0.003							
de03b11	ATHO-5	40	18.389	0.052	15.433	0.051	38.231	0.111	0.83938	0.001	2.07989	0.003							
de03b12	ATHO-6	40	18.184	0.051	15.300	0.050	37.689	0.111	0.84137	0.001	2.07295	0.003							
de03d10	ATHO-7	40	18.534	0.071	15.607	0.060	38.490	0.136	0.84283	0.001	2.07781	0.004							
de03d11	ATHO-8	40	18.601	0.070	15.657	0.060	38.628	0.134	0.84185	0.001	2.07717	0.004							
de03d12	ATHO-9	40	18.643	0.071	15.704	0.060	38.704	0.139	0.84250	0.001	2.07682	0.004							
fe14a10	ATHO-01	40	18.310	0.165	15.336	0.115	37.707	0.484	0.83866	0.001	2.06260	0.005							
fe14a11	ATHO-02	40	18.519	0.132	15.544	0.103	38.248	0.379	0.83963	0.001	2.06753	0.005							
fe14a12	ATHO-03	40	18.456	0.151	15.495	0.114	38.052	0.440	0.84032	0.001	2.06484	0.005							
fe14b10	ATHO-01	40	18.672	0.145	15.721	0.096	38.462	0.442	0.84234	0.001	2.06199	0.002							
fe14b11	ATHO-02	40	18.139	0.111	15.332	0.075	37.484	0.312	0.84573	0.001	2.06895	0.002							
fe14b12	ATHO-03	40	18.865	0.153	15.826	0.096	38.889	0.457	0.83964	0.001	2.06374	0.002							

<sup>a</sup>calculated using Method 2<sup>b</sup>preferred reference values from Jochum *et al.* (2006a)

Table S2.3: Pb isotope ratio values for K1-2-G

Experiment	Spot Size	19.030		0.009		15.632		0.004		38.524		0.015		0.82146		0.00023		2.0243		0.0004	
		$\mu\text{m}$	SE	$\mu\text{m}$	SE	$\mu\text{m}$	SE	$\mu\text{m}$	SE	$\mu\text{m}$	SE	$\mu\text{m}$	SE	$\mu\text{m}$	SE	$\mu\text{m}$	SE	$\mu\text{m}$	SE		
Preferred Values <sup>a</sup>	69	19.286	0.005	15.804	0.082	39.026	0.207	0.81993	0.001	2.02424	0.002										
	K1.2G-1	19.022	0.101	15.615	0.085	38.511	0.244	0.82127	0.001	2.02016	0.002										
	K1.2G-2	18.655	0.096	15.307	0.082	37.726	0.210	0.82118	0.001	2.02449	0.002										
	K1.2G-3	18.937	0.097	15.519	0.083	38.499	0.221	0.81996	0.001	2.03387	0.002										
	K1.2G-4	18.817	0.097	15.414	0.083	38.030	0.227	0.81966	0.001	2.02279	0.002										
	K1.2G-5	18.990	0.096	15.616	0.082	38.501	0.213	0.82273	0.001	2.03189	0.002										
	K1.2G-6	18.865	0.183	15.466	0.136	38.129	0.327	0.81932	0.001	2.01946	0.004										
	K1.2G-1	18.917	0.165	15.534	0.125	38.343	0.318	0.82060	0.001	2.02669	0.004										
	K1.2G-2	18.996	0.164	15.630	0.126	38.491	0.317	0.82228	0.001	2.02521	0.004										
	K1.2G-3	19.229	0.136	15.795	0.102	38.878	0.275	0.82116	0.001	2.02121	0.003										
	K1.2G-4	19.093	0.142	15.667	0.104	38.754	0.274	0.82018	0.001	2.02797	0.003										
	K1.2G-5	18.985	0.148	15.605	0.108	38.529	0.275	0.82141	0.001	2.02802	0.003										
no29604	69	18.872	0.056	15.476	0.057	38.121	0.150	0.82017	0.001	2.02229	0.004										
	K1.2G-1	19.176	0.056	15.758	0.056	38.927	0.145	0.82206	0.001	2.03184	0.004										
	K1.2G-2	18.744	0.055	15.392	0.056	38.076	0.139	0.82178	0.001	2.03302	0.004										
	K1.2G-3	18.953	0.075	15.557	0.065	38.484	0.171	0.82095	0.001	2.03130	0.003										
	K1.2G-4	18.996	0.075	15.581	0.064	38.491	0.159	0.82082	0.001	2.02797	0.003										
	K1.2G-5	18.853	0.073	15.498	0.064	38.167	0.151	0.82240	0.001	2.02567	0.003										
	K1.2G-6	19.096	0.070	15.680	0.060	38.688	0.133	0.82154	0.001	2.02699	0.004										
	K1.2G-7	18.938	0.071	15.589	0.060	38.475	0.138	0.82379	0.001	2.03295	0.004										
	K1.2G-8	19.033	0.070	15.697	0.060	38.634	0.134	0.82539	0.001	2.03144	0.004										
	K1.2G-9	19.071	0.075	15.662	0.067	38.723	0.179	0.82142	0.001	2.03149	0.004										
	K1.2G-10	18.965	0.075	15.534	0.067	38.406	0.179	0.81997	0.001	2.02613	0.003										
	K1.2G-11	19.003	0.075	15.594	0.066	38.527	0.175	0.82067	0.001	2.02830	0.003										
no29605	99	19.031	0.075	15.685	0.067	38.899	0.184	0.82032	0.001	2.02964	0.003										
	K1.2G-9	19.049	0.075	15.699	0.067	38.531	0.179	0.81993	0.001	2.02443	0.003										
no29616	99	19.014	0.075	15.590	0.067	38.501	0.176	0.82037	0.001	2.02630	0.003										
	K1.2G-12																				

<sup>a</sup>calculated using Method 2<sup>b</sup>preferred reference values from Jochum *et al.* (2006b)

Table S2-4. Pb isotope ratio values for ML3B-G

Experiment	Spot Size	18.720		0.016		15.600		36.454		0.643		0.8334		0.0017		2.0542		0.0006	
		$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	$^{208}\text{Pb}$ (1 $\sigma$ )	
de01a16	ML3B-1	69	18.726	0.176	15.588	0.133	38.321	0.337	0.83086	0.001	2.04202	0.004							
de01a17	ML3B-2	69	18.807	0.203	15.635	0.151	38.484	0.344	0.82989	0.001	2.04156	0.004							
de01a18	ML3B-3	69	18.376	0.191	15.207	0.137	37.568	0.342	0.82959	0.001	2.04441	0.004							
de01b10	ML3B-4	69	18.686	0.148	15.503	0.110	38.222	0.285	0.82759	0.001	2.04083	0.003							
de01b11	ML3B-5	69	18.662	0.164	15.472	0.113	38.192	0.288	0.82759	0.001	2.04275	0.003							
de01b12	ML3B-6	69	18.841	0.165	15.641	0.121	38.589	0.294	0.82886	0.001	2.04468	0.003							
de03a10	ML3B-1	69	18.488	0.096	15.332	0.096	37.829	0.151	0.82941	0.001	2.04091	0.004							
de03a11	ML3B-2	69	18.900	0.059	15.654	0.088	38.571	0.171	0.82903	0.001	2.04296	0.004							
de03a12	ML3B-3	69	18.793	0.058	15.619	0.088	38.552	0.155	0.83164	0.001	2.05622	0.004							
de03a14	ML3B-4	69	18.647	0.075	15.479	0.064	38.190	0.160	0.83042	0.001	2.04938	0.003							
de03a15	ML3B-5	69	18.773	0.074	15.572	0.064	38.446	0.158	0.82990	0.001	2.04899	0.003							
de03a16	ML3B-6	69	18.353	0.080	15.190	0.067	37.617	0.212	0.82805	0.001	2.05084	0.003							
de03a17	ML3B-7	69	18.590	0.073	15.429	0.062	38.193	0.163	0.83032	0.001	2.05544	0.004							
de03a18	ML3B-8	69	18.846	0.070	15.649	0.060	38.757	0.133	0.83060	0.001	2.05767	0.004							
de03a19	ML3B-9	69	18.515	0.075	15.404	0.062	38.059	0.171	0.83135	0.001	2.05490	0.004							
fe14a04	ML3B-01	69	18.891	0.181	15.637	0.130	38.719	0.218	0.82863	0.001	2.05213	0.005							
fe14a05	ML3B-02	69	18.876	0.170	15.694	0.128	38.692	0.223	0.83198	0.001	2.05194	0.005							
fe14a06	ML3B-03	69	18.718	0.172	15.570	0.124	38.265	0.219	0.83179	0.001	2.04603	0.005							
fe14a07	ML3B-04	69	18.899	0.132	15.636	0.089	38.543	0.145	0.82771	0.001	2.04154	0.002							
fe14a08	ML3B-05	69	18.578	0.115	15.339	0.081	38.069	0.133	0.82676	0.001	2.04828	0.002							
fe14a09	ML3B-06	69	18.444	0.130	15.319	0.081	37.675	0.154	0.83094	0.001	2.04466	0.002							
de10b10	ML3B-7	99	18.781	0.076	15.541	0.068	38.452	0.185	0.82752	0.001	2.04827	0.003							
de10b11	ML3B-8	99	18.798	0.082	15.552	0.070	38.499	0.215	0.82767	0.001	2.04924	0.003							
de10b12	ML3B-9	99	18.619	0.076	15.438	0.067	38.239	0.186	0.83055	0.001	2.05468	0.003							
de10b28	ML3B-10	99	18.702	0.076	15.547	0.067	38.430	0.181	0.83146	0.001	2.05568	0.003							
de10b29	ML3B-11	99	18.728	0.075	15.539	0.067	38.456	0.176	0.82990	0.001	2.05435	0.003							
de10b30	ML3B-12	99	19.099	0.079	15.908	0.069	39.274	0.205	0.83197	0.001	2.05418	0.003							

\*calculated using Method 2

\*preferred reference values from Jochum *et al.* (2006a)



### **Chapter 3: Accuracy and precision of non-matrix-matched calibration for lead isotope ratio measurements of lead-poor minerals by LA-MC-ICPMS**

#### **Abstract**

This study evaluates the necessity of matrix matching for laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-MC-ICPMS) lead isotope ratio measurements of lead-poor ( $< 70$  ppm total Pb) feldspar and sulfide using standard-sample-standard bracketing to correct for mass discrimination. Lead isotope ratios of three different feldspar minerals and three different sulfide matrices were measured by LA-MC-ICPMS to determine the quality of data possible when calibrating samples with standards having different physical characteristics and chemical compositions. Lead isotope ratios for the feldspars were calibrated against NIST 612 and BCR2-G. The average  $^{206, 207, 208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207, 208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios determined by LA-MC-ICPMS on all three feldspars, independent of standard, are within 0.40% of the average TIMS measurements made in this study on the same grains. External precisions for the LA-MC-ICPMS measurements are better than 0.60% (RSD, 1-sigma). Lead isotope ratios for 3 sulfides were determined by LA-MC-ICPMS using either NIST 612 or PB-1, a synthetic sulfide glass, as the external calibration standard. For two sulfides that contain little to no mercury the mean  $^{206, 207, 208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207, 208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios are accurate within 0.40% of the average TIMS measurements made in this study on the same grains, with only subtle differences in results between matrix-matched (PB-1) and non-matrix-matched (NIST 612) analyses. Lead isotope ratios determined for MASS-1, a pressed powder

sulfide containing high levels of mercury (~ 60 ppm), are highly variable. This is a result of intrinsic lead isotope heterogeneity in MASS-I and errors in the isobaric overlap corrections for  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  caused by fractionation of Hg/Pb during spot analyses. Despite significant differences in the ablation behavior of silicate glass, feldspar and sulfide, the results demonstrate that precise and accurate lead isotope ratio data can be obtained by LA-MC-ICPMS for feldspar and sulfide containing little to no mercury, using commonly available silicate glasses as calibration standards.

### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

Lead isotope ratio measurements are used widely in the earth and environmental sciences, for instance as tracers of source and process in silicate and sulfide magmatic systems (Mathez and Waight, 2003; Gagnevin et al., 2005), in sedimentary provenance investigations (Tyrrell et al., 2006; Connelly and Thrane, 2005) and for contaminant source apportionment (McGill et al., 2003; Burnett et al., 2007). The incorporation of discrete-dynode and/or continuous dynode electron multipliers (ion counters) within multiple-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometers (MC-ICPMS) coupled to a laser ablation system (LA-MC-ICPMS) has pushed limits of detection and spatial resolution for measurements of lead isotope ratios in minerals to remarkable levels in recent years (Simonetti et al., 2005; Souders and Sylvester, 2008). Yet an inherent limitation to the precision and accuracy of the technique for lead isotopes is the lack of an invariant isotope ratio of lead that can be used for internal mass bias corrections of measured lead isotope ratios. Unlike other radiogenic isotope systems of geologic

interest (e.g. Rb-Sr, Lu-Hf, Sm-Nd), the lead isotopic system has only one stable isotope ( $^{204}\text{Pb}$ ), making internal mass bias corrections impossible. Methods of external normalization such as aspirating a thallium tracer solution during laser analysis to monitor lead isotope fractionation (e.g. Horn et al., 2000; Kosler et al., 2002), and standard-sample-standard bracketing with silicate glass reference materials of known lead isotope composition must be employed instead (e.g. Willigers et al., 2002; Simonetti et al., 2005; Paul et al., 2005; Souders and Sylvester 2008). With these external calibration approaches, the potential for mass bias variations as a function of matrix composition must be carefully evaluated.

An external calibration method such as standard-sample-standard bracketing can only be used to correct for mass bias if (1) drift of the measured isotopic ratios of the standards is linear over the course of an analytical session and (2) there is no difference in mass discrimination between isotopes of interest in the standard matrix relative to the sample matrix. Measured LA-MC-ICPMS isotope ratios generally differ from preferred isotope ratio values due to mass-dependant processes such as instrumental mass bias and isotopic fractionation produced by incomplete volatilization of ablated particles delivered to the ICP (Jackson and Günther, 2003). Mass discrimination is the main source of error affecting isotope ratio measurements and improper correction procedures limit the accuracy of these measurements (Pearson et al., 2008). Many factors have been shown to influence isotopic fractionation: instrument operating parameters such as extraction lens settings, RF power and gas flow (Pearson et al., 2008; Andren et al., 2004), laser ablation parameters such as wavelength and fluence (Jackson and Günther, 2003; Andren et al.,

2004; Kosler et al., 2005) as well as differences in chemical and physical properties between standards and samples, commonly referred to as matrix effects. Matrix effects can lead to variable ablation rates, particle size formation, particle composition, particle transport efficiency, ionization efficiency in the Ar-plasma and mass loading (Sylvester, 2008 and references therein).

Study of the influence of sample matrix on calibration of elemental analysis has been on-going (e.g. Halter et al., 2004; Jochum et al., 2007; Kroslovskaya and Günther, 2007; Sylvester, 2008) yet the extent to which matrix matching is necessary for external normalization of LA-MC-ICPMS isotope ratio measurements has just begun to be investigated. Several high-precision LA-MC-ICPMS isotope ratio investigations applying external correction procedures have identified significant biases directly related to differences in sample matrices (Mason et al., 2006; Norman et al., 2006). Lead isotope ratio measurements by solution-based MC-ICPMS have shown that varying concentrations of matrix elements such as Fe, Ca, Mg, and Al can enhance or suppress the sensitivity of measured lead isotopes (Barling and Weis, 2008). Yet it is unclear from existing work if these matrix effects are large enough to be detected at the levels of precision and accuracy possible for LA-MC-ICPMS measurements of lead isotope ratios.

Mathez and Waight (2003) found that ratios of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  (referred hereafter as  $^{207,208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ) in individual plagioclase grains measured by LA-MC-ICPMS, with corrections for mass discrimination made using a silicate glass standard, agreed to better than  $\sim 0.8\%$  and  $\sim 1.3\%$  with analyses by TIMS and solution-based MC-ICPMS respectively of bulk separates of the plagioclase grains. Lead

concentrations of the plagioclase were only ~10 ppm or less so data for the minor  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope (only ~1.4% of all lead) could not be measured accurately using the Faraday collectors employed. The authors also compared silicate-glass-calibrated LA-MC-ICPMS measurements of various sulfides (discrete pyrrhotite and pentlandite grains, and sulfide intergrowth mixtures) with solution-based MC-ICPMS analyses of bulk sulfide separates from the same sample. For  $^{207,208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios, the data agreed to within 1.9%. Some of the sulfides were sufficiently enriched in lead so that measurements of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  were possible with Faraday cups. For  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (referred hereafter as  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ) ratios, the laser and solution data agreed to only within 5.8%.

Gagnevin et al. (2005) reported agreement to within ~0.3% between silicate-glass-calibrated, LA-MC-ICPMS analyses of K-feldspar ( $\text{Or}_{65-92}$ ) megacrysts and solution-based, double-spike tracer, MC-ICPMS analyses of micro-samples drilled from the same megacrysts. The feldspar contained  $\sim 60 - 175 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$  total Pb so that both  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207,208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  could be measured with Faraday cups. The laser analyses of the feldspars required corrections for small biases (up to 0.15%) seen between the LA-MC-ICPMS measurements of the NIST 610 glass standard and previous TIMS and solution-based, MC-ICPMS analyses of NIST 610.

Connelly and Thrane (2005) measured ratios of  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for K-feldspar in rock slabs and grain mounts by LA-MC-ICPMS with external calibration against a silicate glass. Compared to solution-based, double-spike, MC-ICPMS analyses of separates of the K-feldspar grains, most of the *in situ* laser analyses gave less radiogenic

$^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  ratios, by up to 1.25%. The authors ascribed the difference to the presence of unidentified, radiogenic micro-inclusions or domains in the K-feldspar, which were unavoidably included in the MC-ICPMS analyses of bulk separates but missed at the scale of the laser analyses.

Our investigation focuses on the extent to which matrix matching is necessary for LA-MC-ICPMS measurements of lead isotopes in lead-poor ( $< 70$  ppm) feldspars and sulfides using standard-sample-standard bracketing to correct for mass bias. We present a much more detailed comparison of the quality of data that can be expected for non-matrix-matched and matrix-matched lead isotope ratio measurements of these minerals than has been reported before.

### 3.2 METHOD/ANALYTICAL SET-UP

We used a Thermo Scientific NEPTUNE double-focusing magnetic sector MC-ICPMS for in situ lead isotope ratio measurements following the analytical method of Souders and Sylvester (2008). The NEPTUNE is equipped with nine Faraday detectors and eight Channeltron ion counters. Static, concurrent measurement of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  ( $\text{Hg} + \text{Pb}$ ),  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  isotopes were made in 5 ion counters, set in fixed positions for the collection of the Hg and Pb isotopes of interest, attached to the low-mass side of Faraday detector L4.  $^{235}\text{U}$  was monitored for all analyses in the ion counter mounted on the high mass side of Faraday cup H3. Typical operating conditions for the NEPTUNE and the multi-collector cup configuration are shown in Table 3-1. The isobaric

interference of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  was corrected by the method described in detail by Souders and Sylvester (2008).

A GeoLas laser ablation system coupled to the NEPTUNE MC-ICPMS containing a Lambda Physik ComPex Pro 110 ArF excimer laser operating at a wavelength of 193 nm and a 20 ns pulse width was used for in situ analysis of silicates and sulfides. Samples were ablated in He gas atmosphere, which reduces sample re-deposition and elemental fractionation while increasing sensitivity for 193 nm ablation (Eggins et al., 1998; Günther and Heinrich, 1999). Mercury was filtered from the He using Au-coated glass wool placed on the He gas line feeding into the ablation cell. The He gas is mixed with the Ar gas using a glass T-piece placed in the teflon tubing leading into the ICP torch. Typical laser ablation parameters for each matrix analyzed are described in Table 3-1. Identical ablation conditions were used for standard and sample pairs yet compromises between laser fluence, repetition rate and spot size were made based on the chemical and physical properties of the analyte in order to avoid count rates exceeding 300,000 counts per second (cps) where pulse pileup and dead time signal loss become significant and detector drift may be accelerated (Souders and Sylvester, 2008a, 2008b).

The duration of each standard and sample analysis was ~150 seconds using a 0.18 second or 1 second integration time, depending on the analytical session. The first 30 seconds were used to measure background count rates with the laser off, followed by 60 seconds of laser ablation, and 60 seconds of recorded wash out. On-line corrections for both ion counter yield and dark noise were performed using the NEPTUNE software

prior to downloading the measured mass intensities into “Pb-Tool”, an Excel spreadsheet modified from “LAM-Tool” of Kosler et al. (2008) for off-line subtraction of mean gas background intensities from time-resolved signal intensities for each isotope,  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  interference corrections on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , ablation interval selection, lead isotope ratio calculations, and correction for instrumental mass bias. Spectroscopic interferences other than  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  were negligible for the matrices of this study. At the low oxide production rates (0.10 - 0.25%) in dry plasma mode, contributions from  $^{186}\text{W}^{16}\text{O}$  on  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{190}\text{Pt}^{16}\text{O}$  on  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{191}\text{Ir}^{16}\text{O}$  on  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{192}\text{Pt}^{16}\text{O}$  on  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  were each ~20 counts per second or less. The IrO interference was larger in MASS-1 (~70 cps) but, even in this case, the effect on final  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios is just 0.1%. Only minimal counts (< 40 cps) were recorded for  $^{166,167,168}\text{Er}^{40}\text{Ar}$  on  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}$  respectively.

A standard-sample-standard bracketing approach was employed to correct for instrumental mass fractionation and detector drift (Albarede et al., 2008). Three standards followed by three unknowns followed by three standards were run sequentially. Calculated lead isotope ratios for every three standards are averaged and the lead isotope ratios for unknowns are determined by linear interpolation of the averaged standard ratios run before and after the unknowns. Reported uncertainties for each unknown analysis are based on the standard error of the mean of each lead isotope ratio for the selected ablation interval and the standard error of the y-estimate of the linear regression through the lead isotope ratios of the standards. Bulk compositions of silicate reference glasses used as external calibrants ranged from synthetic soda-lime aluminosilicate (NIST 612 and NIST



614) to natural basalt (BCR2-G). Lead isotope ratio reference values for each silicate glass are listed in Table S3-1 at the end of this chapter (Supplemental data).

Feldspar and sulfide materials analyzed by LA-MC-ICPMS for lead isotopes were also analyzed by thermal ionization mass spectrometry (TIMS) in order to provide baseline data to assess accuracy. Each aliquot of feldspar and sulfide analyzed by TIMS ranged from 3 to 15 mg. Detailed description of the TIMS procedure is given in Supplemental File S3-1 and the results are presented in Table S3-2 (Supplemental data).

### 3.3 FELDSPAR AND SULFIDE SAMPLES

Three different feldspars were analyzed as part of this study; an orthoclase megacryst from the Shap granite, northwest England; a bytownite crystal from the Fiskenæsset anorthosite complex, southwest Greenland; and a sanidine phenocryst from the Fish Canyon Tuff (FCT), Colorado, USA. The feldspars have different physical appearances, bulk compositions and total lead concentrations. Both Shap orthoclase and Fiskenæsset bytownite are translucent when cut into < 1 mm thick slices, the orthoclase is milky-white to pink in color whereas the bytownite is white. FCT sanidine is transparent. Both FCT sanidine and Shap orthoclase are potassic feldspars but the sanidine contains less lead than the orthoclase (~20 vs 35 ppm). The bytownite is a calcic feldspar with only 6.5 ppm total lead.

Three different synthetic sulfides, each spiked with lead, were investigated: PB-1, a synthetic Fe-sulfide glass, similar in physical character to a silicate glass; B41, a synthetic Fe-sulfide sinter, which has a subtle mottled appearance in high resolution

back-scattered electron (BSE) images, presumably reflecting areas between grains that almost reached their melting points; and MASS-1, a Fe-Cu-Zn-sulfide pressed powder pellet, which exhibits compositional heterogeneities on the micron scale. Both PB-1 and B41 were produced in the laboratory of C. Ballhaus (Universität Bonn). MASS-1 was made and distributed by the USGS (Wilson et al., 2002) as a standard reference material for in situ trace element measurements and is commonly available in many LA-ICPMS laboratories worldwide. PB-1 and B41 have similar lead concentrations (19 and 16 ppm total lead, respectively) whereas MASS-1 contains ~67 ppm total lead and significant amounts of total mercury (~57 ppm; Wilson et al., 2002; unpublished data, MUN LA-ICPMS lab).

Further information about the bulk composition and physical appearance of the feldspar and sulfide samples is given in Supplemental Figure S3.2.1 and Tables S3.2 – S3.4 at the end of this chapter.

### **3.4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **3.4.1 Isotopic Measurements of Feldspars**

Mean values of lead isotope ratio measurements by LA-MC-ICPMS of the feldspars are presented in Table 3-2. The accuracy of each individual analysis and average %RSD (1-sigma) for each material are plotted in Figure 3-1. The results for each individual analysis are given in Table S3-5 (Supplemental data). In order to assess the effect of non-matrix-matched external standardization on the accuracy of lead isotope ratio analysis of several different feldspars, both USGS BCR2-G and NIST 612/NIST

614 silicate glasses were used as external calibrants. NIST 614 (~4 ppm total Pb) was used in place of NIST 612 (~38 ppm total Pb) as the external standard for analyses involving the Fiskensæset bytownite because both NIST 614 and the bytownite have similar total lead concentrations, which allowed for the same laser ablation conditions to be used when analyzing both standards and samples producing similar count rates. Lead isotope ratios are calculated using method 2 described in Souders and Sylvester (2008).

There is general agreement between lead isotope ratios of the feldspars measured by TIMS and LA-MC-ICPMS despite significant differences in the volume of material analyzed between the two methods. In general, there is  $\sim 10^4$  times greater mass of material analyzed by TIMS compared to a LA-MC-ICPMS analysis using a 69  $\mu\text{m}$  spot and  $\sim 10^5$  times greater than when using a 30  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spot. Mean accuracies of all lead isotope ratios determined by LA-MC-ICPMS for all feldspars analyzed, independent of external calibration material, are within 0.40% of the average TIMS values. External precisions of lead isotope ratios determined by LA-MC-ICPMS for all feldspars are better than 0.60% (RSD, 1-sigma). Little difference is observed between the lead isotope ratio results produced using BCR2-G or NIST 612 or NIST 614 as the external calibrant to correct for instrumental mass bias.

### **3.4.2 Ablation Behavior of Feldspar vs. Silicate Glass**

The results indicate that lead isotope ratios of the feldspars with less than ~40 ppm total lead are measured by LA-MC-ICPMS to within acceptable limits of precision and accuracy when calibrated externally against silicate glass standards. These results

are not unexpected based on the apparent success of previous LA-MC-ICPMS studies using various instrumentation, instrument parameters and laser ablation conditions to measure the lead isotope ratios of feldspars against a silicate glass standard reference material (e.g. Mathez and Waight, 2003; Gagnevin et al., 2005; Connelly and Thrane, 2005; Tyrrell et al., 2006; Mathez and Kent, 2007).

What comes as a surprise in our investigation is that acceptable results are produced despite large differences in the physical and chemical responses of the feldspar minerals and silicate glasses to the laser ablation conditions used in this study, which were evaluated by comparing pit morphology, apparent drill rate, sensitivity and fractionation indices of each matrix. Secondary electron (SE) images of craters after 30 seconds of laser ablation and representative time-resolved lead isotope spectra for the ablation interval for the glass standards and feldspar analyzed using a laser fluence of  $3 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$  and 10 Hz are shown in Figure 3-2 for a  $69 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  laser spot and Figure 3-3 for a  $30 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  laser spot. In both Figures 3-2 and 3-3, the apparent drill rate ( $\mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$ ),  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  sensitivity (cps of  $^{208}\text{Pb ppm}^{-1}$ ), and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  fractionation indexes for each matrix at the specified laser ablation conditions are listed.

Craters formed with a  $69\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  laser spot all appear morphologically similar with relatively smooth crater walls and flat crater floors. The walls of the pit created in NIST 614 appear to have a shallower slope, tapering towards the middle of the pit, than the crater walls in both BCR2-G and the bytownite. There is subdued development of a melt sheet on the crater floor and along the sidewalls of the pits with small melt-rims forming at the crater edges for all three materials. Very little splatter is noticeable on the sample

surfaces outside the crater rims at the magnification of the images shown in Figure 3-2. Apparent drill rates for BCR2-G, NIST 614 and the bytownite using a 69  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spot are all above 1  $\mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$ . We are unable to distinguish whether there are significant variations in ablation rates between the three matrices because of difficulties in determining the exact distance from the crater rim to crater floor in the presence of laser-produced melt. We estimate errors of  $\sim 20\%$  on the calculated ablation rates. Procedures for determination of drill rates are described in Supplemental File S3-3.

In contrast to pits made with the 69- $\mu\text{m}$  laser spots, those formed in silicate glasses and feldspars using a 30  $\mu\text{m}$  spot have irregular melt surfaces along the crater walls and rims. Large piles of melt droplets have accumulated at the bottom of both the 30- $\mu\text{m}$  craters in orthoclase and sanidine. Crater walls of NIST 612, orthoclase and sanidine all taper in towards the bottom of the pit, which differs from the (comparatively) vertical crater walls of the 30- $\mu\text{m}$  crater in BCR2-G. A small volume of tiny melt droplets form a thin ejecta blanket covering the sample surface outside the crater rim, yet within the field of view of all images shown in Figure 3-3. Apparent drill rates for the 30  $\mu\text{m}$  craters range between  $\sim 0.60 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$  and  $\sim 0.81 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$ , more than 20% lower than estimated errors on the drill rates calculated for the 69  $\mu\text{m}$  craters. The slower ablation rates estimated for the 30  $\mu\text{m}$  craters probably result in part from the difficulty in extracting melt droplets from them compared to the wider, 69  $\mu\text{m}$  craters.

The fractionation index (f) is a measure of changes in analyte signals during laser ablation. It is calculated as the mean background corrected intensity of a measured isotope for the second half of the ablation interval divided by the mean background

corrected signal intensity of the same measured isotope for the first half of the ablation interval. The  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  fractionation indices for BCR2-G, NIST 614 and the bytownite using a 69- $\mu\text{m}$  laser spot range from 0.66 (NIST 614) to 0.95 (bytownite) yet all overlap within error (Figure 3-2). The fractionation indices for the silicate glasses and feldspars analyzed with a 30- $\mu\text{m}$  spot are 0.62, 0.53, 0.68 and 0.67 for BCR2-G, NIST 612, orthoclase and sanidine, respectively (Figure 3-3). For each material, regardless of the laser spot size used, the fractionation index for each measured lead isotope (e.g.  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ , etc.) is within 0.45% of the other measured lead isotopes such that when lead isotope ratios are calculated, the fractionation index is  $\sim 1$  for all lead isotope ratios. This indicates that there is no measurable fractionation of lead isotope ratios during ablation, regardless of mass differences between the isotopes and differences in the chemical and physical properties of the studied matrices.

The  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  sensitivity for BCR2-G is  $\sim 15\%$  greater than that for NIST 614 and the bytownite using a 69  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spot (Figure 3-2). For a 30  $\mu\text{m}$  spot, BCR2-G has a sensitivity for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  of  $\sim 9600$  cps  $\text{ppm}^{-1}$ ), which is greater than the sensitivities for Shap orthoclase ( $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 8800$  cps  $\text{ppm}^{-1}$ ), NIST 612 ( $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 8100$  cps  $\text{ppm}^{-1}$ ) and FCT sanidine ( $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 7800$  cps  $\text{ppm}^{-1}$ ) (Figure 3-3). Differences in lead sensitivities between matrices can be caused by several factors, in particular the degree to which materials of differing composition absorb laser energy and the resulting variations in total mass and size distribution of particles delivered to the ICP (Guillong and Günther, 2002; Kroslakova and Günther, 2007). Materials enriched in transition metals and darker in color tend to absorb laser energy more efficiently than transparent, transition metal-poor

materials. We suggest this is the cause of the greater sensitivity of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  recorded for Fe-rich BCR2-G when compared to that for Fe-poor, NIST 612, NIST 614 and feldspars. Sensitivity of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  of the orthoclase is somewhat higher than that of NIST 612, whereas that for the sanidine is somewhat lower. This is probably because the pinkish-white orthoclase absorbs somewhat more laser energy than the translucent NIST 612 whereas the clear, transparent sanidine absorbs much less.

### 3.4.3 Isotopic Measurements of Sulfides

LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope ratio measurement of sulfide matrices using silicate glass as an external calibrant for mass discrimination represents an extreme case of non-matrix-matched analysis. In our experiments, NIST 612 was used as the external standard for LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope analyses of three sulfides: PB-1, B41 and USGS MASS-1. To provide a comparison baseline for data quality by matrix matching, lead isotope ratios of the sulfides were also measured using PB-1 as the external calibrant. Results of the average LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope ratio measurements are listed in Table 3-3 and accuracies relative to the adopted TIMS values are plotted in Figure 3-4. The results for each individual analysis are given in Table S3-6 (Supplemental data).

There is good agreement between lead isotope ratios measured by LA-MC-ICPMS using a 30  $\mu\text{m}$  spot (2  $\text{J cm}^{-2}$ , 10 Hz) and TIMS for both PB-1 and B41 despite the fact that greater than  $\sim 10^5$  times more material was analyzed by TIMS. There is little difference between the matrix-matched (PB-1) and non-matrix-matched (NIST 612) lead

isotope ratio results for both PB-1 and B41, although there is a slight improvement in the accuracy of the mean  $^{207,208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios for B41 when PB-1 rather than NIST 612 is used as the external calibrant. In contrast, lead isotope analyses by both TIMS and LA-MC-ICPMS are highly variable for MASS-1, particularly for  $^{206,207,208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios.

We attribute the large discrepancies between the LA-MC-ICPMS and TIMS measurements and the variability of the individual LA-MC-ICPMS analyses to both (1) intrinsic heterogeneity in lead isotopes in the MASS-1 matrix, and (2) errors in the correction of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on the LA-MC-ICPMS measurement on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  in this mercury-rich sulfide. Evidence for intrinsic lead isotopic heterogeneity in MASS-1 is the external precision of 1.4% for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and 0.59% for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  determined by the TIMS measurements, which are much poorer than for all of the other feldspars and sulfides analyzed by TIMS in this study (Table S3-2, Supplemental data). The primary cause of the poor external precision however is error in the subtraction of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  from  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  in MASS-1. Unlike all other materials in this investigation, MASS-1 contains a significant amount of total mercury (~57 ppm). After subtraction of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  from the gas background, only a small proportion (~1%) of the remaining  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  signal is due to  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  in the silicate glasses, feldspars, PB-1 or B41. For MASS-1, however, ~80% of the gas background subtracted  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  signal is due to  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  in the sulfide matrix. At these levels, differences in the fractionation behavior between Hg and Pb during laser ablation become important, leading to systematic errors in the  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  correction. To illustrate, Figure 3-5 is an example of time-resolved-spectra of mercury and lead isotopes for a laser spot analysis in MASS-1 showing how the Pb signals decay somewhat faster than the Hg



signals. The fractionation index of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  is  $\sim 0.54$ , but for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ , it is only  $\sim 0.36$ . Thus the contribution of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  (as calculated from  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ) to the total  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  signal progressively increases with ablation time and the calculated  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  (remaining after  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  subtraction) progressively decreases. The result is that the corrected  $^{206, 207, 208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios steadily increase during ablation. Unless the external calibration standard has a similar Hg/Pb ratio to the unknown, or an ablation method that minimizes element-element fractionation such as line rastering is employed, significant variability in the external precision of  $^{206, 207, 208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios will be seen, as is the case here.

The  $^{207, 208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios determined for MASS-I suggest that MASS-I has rather homogeneous  $^{207, 208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios at the scale of the laser analyses, which is seemingly inconsistent with the rather poor external precision found in the TIMS analyses, 1.2% for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and 0.78% for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ . The implication is that lead isotopic heterogeneities in MASS-I are carried by sparsely distributed micronuggets that tend to be missed by the fine scale of the laser analyses but not by the larger aliquots analyzed by TIMS.

#### **3.4.4 Ablation Behavior of Sulfide vs. Silicate Glass**

As for feldspars, our results indicate that precise and accurate lead isotope data can be determined for sulfides by LA-MC-ICPMS with non-matrix matched calibration for mass discrimination using a silicate glass. This result is surprising in that laser ablation produced much more melt in the sulfides than in the silicate calibration standard. The concern is that lead isotopes may become fractionated in the melt droplets, either at

the ablation site or in the ICP. Figures 3-6 and 3-7 show images of craters produced by laser ablation in NIST 612 and the three sulfides after 30 seconds of ablation. Representative time-resolved lead isotope spectra, apparent drill rates,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  sensitivity and the fractionation indices for both  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  and the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio are also included.

Laser fluence was reduced from  $3 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$  used for the feldspar analyses to  $2 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$  for the sulfide experiments in an attempt to reduce melting of sulfide during ablation (Wohlgegmuth-Ueberwasser et al., 2007; Woodhead et al., 2009). Sulfide minerals typically have lower melting points than silicates and absorb laser energy more efficiently due to their high concentrations of transition metals, leading to enhanced melting during laser ablation. Laser-produced sulfide melt may remain trapped in the ablation pit, rather than being transported to the ICP, thereby reducing analyte sensitivity (Sylvester, 2008). Significant melt production also increases the chance of delivery of melt particles to the ICP that are too large to be completely volatilized (Guillong and Günther, 2002), potentially inducing elemental or isotopic fractionations (Jackson and Günther, 2003). Despite the reduced fluence, however, SE images in Figures 3-6 and 3-7 show that considerable melt was still produced in and around the pits drilled in the sulfides. We attempted to reduce the laser fluence to less than  $2 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$  in order to limit melt production even further but found that this provided insufficient energy for consistent ablation of the NIST glass. Even at  $2 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$ , ablation pits in NIST 612 are poorly formed with shallow walls thinly lined with melt (Figures 3-6 and 3-7). This is reflected in the relative sensitivity of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  in NIST 612 ( $\sim 6900 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$ ), which is only somewhat

more than half that found in PB-1 ( $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 11200 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$ ) and B41 ( $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 10600 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$ ) for the 30- $\mu\text{m}$  spots (Figure 3-6).

The morphology and dispersion of laser-produced melt in ablation pits in PB-1 is similar to that in B41, despite their physical differences (glass vs. sinter), but melt features in MASS-1 are quite different from both PB-1 and B41. In particular, there is extensive build-up of melt along the crater rims creating wall-like structures (up to  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$  in height) for the 20 and 30  $\mu\text{m}$  craters in PB-1 and the 30  $\mu\text{m}$  crater in B41, but not for the 20  $\mu\text{m}$  crater in MASS-1. Crater walls in PB-1 and B41 all taper inwards towards the center of the laser pit whereas the crater walls of MASS-1 are much steeper with finger-like melt structures present in vertical-layers. Numerous micron-sized melt droplets are visible on the sample surface outside of the 30  $\mu\text{m}$  craters in PB-1 and B41 but there are few if any droplets surrounding the 20  $\mu\text{m}$  crater in MASS-1.

The implication of these observations is that ablation and removal of material from MASS-1 ablation pits was more efficient than from the pits in PB-1 and B41, leaving a crater in MASS-1 with nearly vertical walls and no significant melt rim and melt droplets in the ejecta blanket. Calculated drill rates and measured sensitivities for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  are consistent with this hypothesis (Figure 3-7). The apparent drill rate calculated for MASS-1 is  $\sim 0.71 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$ , significantly greater than that determined for PB-1 ( $\sim 0.24 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$ ) ablated under identical ablation conditions. During these ablations, the sensitivity for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  in MASS-1 was  $\sim 8700 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$ , but much less, only  $\sim 5700 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$ , for PB-1. We suggest that the granular nature of the pressed powder pellet of MASS-1 allowed more efficient drilling and removal of material by the laser than in the

case of the glassy matrix of PB-1. Evidently, however, the strikingly different ablation behavior for MASS-1 did not produce large errors in the  $^{207,208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios measured by LA-MC-ICPMS. The fractionation index for the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio in MASS-1 is  $0.99 \pm 0.03$ , indicating the lack of detectable time-dependent fractionation during ablation.

The ablation behavior for NIST 612 appears to be more similar to that for PB-1 and B41 than to MASS-1. In particular the ablation pits in NIST 612 taper downward in a cone shape as for the pits in PB-1 and B41. The most obvious difference is the smaller amounts of melt produced during ablation of NIST 612 compared to the sulfides. A melt wall did not form along the rim of the pits in NIST 612 unlike around the pits in PB-1 and B41. Nonetheless besides the differences in  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  sensitivity described above, values for the various ablation parameters presented in Figures 3-6 and 3-7 for NIST 612 are similar to those for PB-1 and B41. For instance, apparent drill rates in the 30- $\mu\text{m}$  pits for NIST 612 ( $\sim 0.31 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$ ) are similar to those for PB-1 ( $\sim 0.41 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$ ) and B41 ( $\sim 0.37 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$ ). Fractionation indices for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  in 30  $\mu\text{m}$  pits are  $\sim 0.36$  for NIST 612,  $\sim 0.41$  for PB-1, and  $\sim 0.37$  for B41. Fractionation indices for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  are  $\sim 1$  for each of NIST 612, PB-1 and B41, demonstrating that there is little or no fractionation of lead isotopes during laser ablation of these silicate and sulfide matrices.

### 3.5 CONCLUSION

Mass bias is the largest source of error affecting isotope ratio measurements by LA-MC-ICPMS and if not properly corrected, the accuracy and precision of an isotope ratio analysis can be severely compromised. We have shown that a silicate glass

can be used effectively to make external corrections for mass discrimination of lead isotope ratios in both lead-poor feldspars (< 40 ppm total lead) and sulfides (< 20 ppm total lead) despite large differences in matrix composition, ablation behavior, apparent drill rates, and the sensitivities and fractionation indices of individual lead isotopes. For laser spot analyses, sample matrices containing significant amounts of Hg relative to Pb ( $\text{Hg/Pb} > 0.5$ ) require external calibration standards that are matrix matched in terms of Hg/Pb ratios in order to properly correct for the isobaric interference of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . Accuracies and precisions of ~0.5% can be expected for in situ lead isotope ratio measurements of lead-poor feldspar and sulfide using 193 nm, nanosecond laser radiation and a MC-ICPMS instrument equipped with ion counters.

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**Table 3-2.** Average LA-MC-ICPMS Lead isotope ratio values for feldspar<sup>a</sup>

		<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>208</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb	<sup>208</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb
<b>Shap orthoclase</b>		<b>18.271 ± 0.0242</b>	<b>15.656 ± 0.0074</b>	<b>38.258 ± 0.0236</b>	<b>0.857 ± 0.0009</b>	<b>2.094 ± 0.0023</b>
BCR2-G standard	Mean	18.268	15.671	38.256	0.859	2.098
3 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	SD (1s)	0.0632	0.0742	0.1266	0.0018	0.0049
30 µm spot	% RSD (1s)	0.35%	0.47%	0.33%	0.21%	0.23%
(n = 15)	Accuracy (%)	-0.02%	0.10%	0.00%	0.19%	0.17%
612 standard	Mean	18.292	15.688	38.337	0.858	2.096
3 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	SD (1s)	0.0598	0.0630	0.1515	0.0013	0.0040
30 µm spot	% RSD (1s)	0.33%	0.40%	0.40%	0.15%	0.19%
(n = 15)	Accuracy (%)	0.12%	0.21%	0.21%	0.08%	0.09%
<b>FCT sanidine<sup>b</sup></b>		<b>18.472 ± 0.016</b>	<b>15.604 ± 0.018</b>	<b>37.8025 ± 0.088</b>	<b>0.8447 ± 0.0003</b>	<b>2.0465 ± 0.003</b>
BCR2-G standard	Mean	18.471	15.609	37.902	0.846	2.050
3 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	SD (1s)	0.0225	0.0730	0.0658	0.0026	0.0029
30 µm spot	% RSD (1s)	0.12%	0.47%	0.17%	0.31%	0.14%
(n = 11)	Accuracy (%)	0.00%	0.03%	0.26%	0.12%	0.16%
612 standard	Mean	18.468	15.564	37.658	0.843	2.045
3 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	SD (1s)	0.0261	0.0418	0.0292	0.0015	0.0033
30 µm spot	% RSD (1s)	0.14%	0.27%	0.08%	0.18%	0.16%
(n = 3)	Accuracy (%)	-0.02%	-0.26%	-0.38%	-0.15%	-0.07%
<b>Fishersasset bytownite</b>		<b>13.275 ± 0.0308</b>	<b>14.457 ± 0.0281</b>	<b>33.103 ± 0.0612</b>	<b>1.089 ± 0.0035</b>	<b>2.494 ± 0.0075</b>
BCR2-G standard	Mean	13.265	14.476	33.077	1.091	2.500
3 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	SD (1s)	0.0391	0.0455	0.0925	0.0022	0.0089
69 µm spot	% RSD (1s)	0.30%	0.31%	0.28%	0.20%	0.36%
(n = 20)	Accuracy (%)	-0.07%	0.13%	-0.08%	0.21%	0.22%
614 standard	Mean	13.289	14.458	33.125	1.090	2.498
3 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	SD (1s)	0.0293	0.0795	0.1237	0.0036	0.0008
69 µm spot	% RSD (1s)	0.22%	0.55%	0.37%	0.33%	0.03%
(n = 3)	Accuracy (%)	0.11%	0.01%	0.07%	0.12%	0.17%

<sup>a</sup> all values in bold are the adopted average TIMS values for each matrix used in this investigation

<sup>b</sup> Hemming and Rasbury (2000)

**Table 3-3.** Average LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope ratio values for sulfides matrices<sup>a</sup>

		<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>208</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb	<sup>208</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb
<b>PB-1</b>		<b>20.586 ± 0.0346</b>	<b>15.834 ± 0.0052</b>	<b>39.559 ± 0.0419</b>	<b>0.7691 ± 0.0011</b>	<b>1.922 ± 0.0028</b>
612 standard	Mean	20.580	15.849	39.489	0.770	1.919
2 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	S.D.	0.038	0.058	0.127	0.002	0.005
30 µm spot	RSD (%)	0.19%	0.37%	0.32%	0.32%	0.26%
(n = 27)	Accuracy (%)	-0.03%	0.10%	-0.18%	0.06%	-0.16%
PB-1 standard		20.599	15.818	39.523	0.769	1.921
2 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	S.D.	0.040	0.051	0.108	0.002	0.005
30 µm spot	RSD (%)	0.19%	0.32%	0.27%	0.20%	0.25%
(n = 12)	Accuracy (%)	0.06%	-0.10%	-0.09%	-0.06%	-0.01%
<b>B41</b>		<b>18.566 ± 0.091</b>	<b>15.676 ± 0.004</b>	<b>38.168 ± 0.064</b>	<b>0.844 ± 0.004</b>	<b>2.056 ± 0.007</b>
612 standard	Mean	18.593	15.651	38.039	0.843	2.048
2 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	S.D.	0.049	0.057	0.141	0.003	0.005
30 µm spot	RSD (%)	0.26%	0.37%	0.37%	0.30%	0.25%
(n = 23)	Accuracy (%)	0.15%	-0.16%	-0.34%	-0.22%	-0.40%
PB-1 standard		18.596	15.701	38.152	0.844	2.053
2 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 10 Hz	S.D.	0.047	0.065	0.118	0.002	0.005
30 µm spot	RSD (%)	0.25%	0.42%	0.31%	0.27%	0.23%
(n = 12)	Accuracy (%)	0.17%	0.16%	-0.04%	-0.09%	-0.12%
<b>MASS-1</b>		<b>20.371 ± 0.277</b>	<b>15.802 ± 0.028</b>	<b>39.383 ± 0.232</b>	<b>0.778 ± 0.009</b>	<b>1.939 ± 0.0150</b>
612 standard	Mean	20.688	16.020	40.191	0.777	1.942
2 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 5 Hz	S.D.	0.373	0.284	0.463	0.000	0.010
20 µm spot	RSD (%)	1.80%	1.77%	1.15%	0.05%	0.52%
(n = 3)	Accuracy (%)	1.82%	1.38%	2.05%	-0.10%	0.17%
PB-1 standard		20.464	15.880	40.005	0.775	1.949
2 J cm <sup>-2</sup> , 5 Hz	S.D.	0.977	0.775	1.964	0.001	0.001
20 µm spot	RSD (%)	4.77%	4.88%	4.91%	0.07%	0.03%
(n = 3)	Accuracy (%)	0.72%	0.49%	1.58%	-0.31%	0.55%

<sup>a</sup> all values in bold are the TIMS values for each matrix used in this investigation

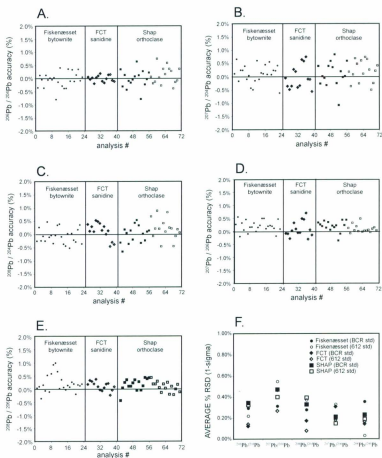
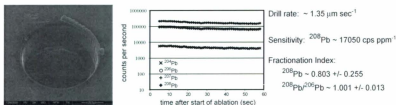
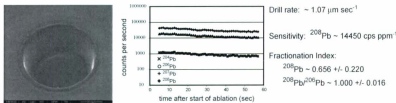


Figure 3-1: (A-E) Accuracy (%) of individual LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope ratio measurements of the three feldspars used in this study, arranged from left to right in order of increasing lead concentration. Solid symbols indicate BCR2-G was used as the external calibrant. Open symbols indicate NIST 614 (Fiskeneset bytownite) or NIST 612 (FCT sandine and Shap orthoclase) was used as the reference standard. (F) Precision (% RSD, 1-sigma) of the average lead isotope ratio measurements for each of the feldspars analyzed is shown.

**A. BCR2-G: 3 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 10 Hz, 69 μm spot**



**B. NIST 614: 3 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 10 Hz, 69 μm spot**



**C. Fiskennæsset Bytownite: 3 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 10 Hz, 69 μm spot**

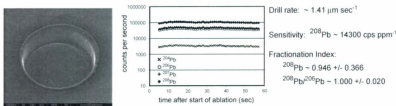
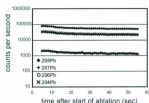
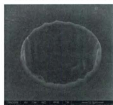


Figure 3-2: Representative examples of laser ablation craters and time-resolved Pb isotope spectra, apparent drill rates, sensitivity, and fractionation index for silicate glass standards and bytownite analyzed using laser ablation conditions of 3 J/cm<sup>2</sup>, 10 Hz and a 69 μm laser spot. All secondary electron images included in this figure were taken after 30 seconds of ablation. The SEM stage is tilted at an angle of 35 degrees for each image. The first 4-5 sec of laser ablation are omitted from each time-resolved plot due to scatter. Drill rates were calculated by directly measuring the surface to depth distance of a representative crater for each matrix created under ablation conditions identical to those used for individual analyses, and then dividing this distance by the ablation time to produce the crater. Further details about the images, SEM parameters, and ablation rate calculations can be found in Supplemental file S3-3. Sensitivity is normalized to isotopic abundance for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  from the average TIMS values or the calibration values adopted for this study (Tables S3-1 and S3-2). Both the sensitivity and fractionation indices are calculated by taking the average of three representative analyses of the stated matrix.

A. BCR2-G: 3 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 10 Hz, 30 μm spot



Drill rate:  $\sim 0.81 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$

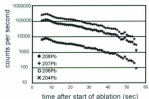
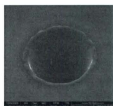
Sensitivity:  $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 9600 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$

Fractionation Index:

$$^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 0.822 \pm 0.002$$

$$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 0.993 \pm 0.007$$

B. NIST 612: 3 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 10 Hz, 30 μm spot



Drill rate:  $\sim 0.70 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$

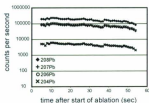
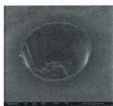
Sensitivity:  $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 8100 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$

Fractionation Index:

$$^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 0.583 \pm 0.166$$

$$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 1.000 \pm 0.001$$

C. Shap orthoclase: 3 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 10 Hz, 30 μm spot



Drill rate:  $\sim 0.60 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$

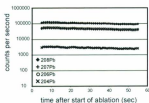
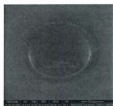
Sensitivity:  $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 8800 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$

Fractionation Index:

$$^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 0.973 \pm 0.053$$

$$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 1.007 \pm 0.015$$

D. FCT sanidine: 3 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 10 Hz, 30 μm spot



Drill rate:  $\sim 0.78 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$

Sensitivity:  $^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 7800 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$

Fractionation Index:

$$^{208}\text{Pb} \sim 0.891 \pm 0.046$$

$$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 1.002 \pm 0.002$$

Figure 3-3: Representative laser ablation craters and time-resolved lead isotope spectra, apparent drill rates, sensitivity and fractionation index for silicate glass standards and two feldspars analyzed using laser ablation conditions of 3 J/cm<sup>2</sup>, 10 Hz and a 30 μm laser spot. Details on the images and calculations are the same as those stated in Figure 3-2.

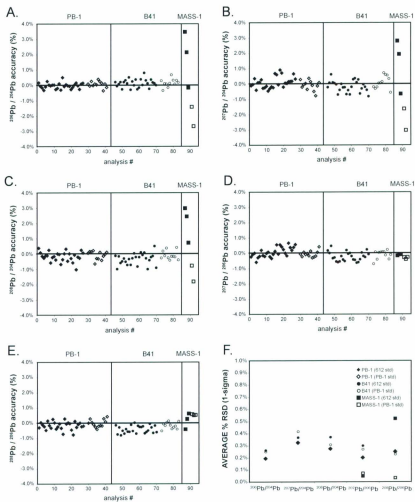


Figure 3-4: (A-E) Accuracy (%) of individual LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope ratio measurements for the three sulfides analyzed in this study, arranged from left to right in order of increasing lead concentration. Solid symbols indicate NIST 612 was the external calibration material and open symbols indicate PB-1 was used as the standard. (F) Precision (% RSD, 1-sigma) of the average lead isotope ratio measurements for each of the sulfides analyzed in this study.

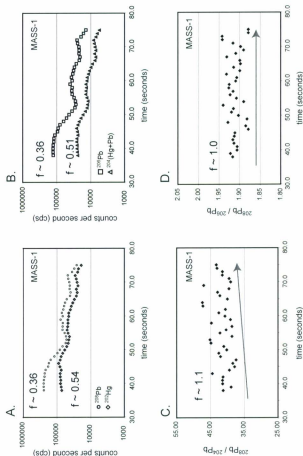
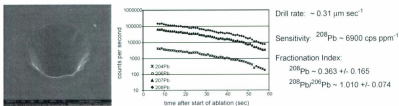


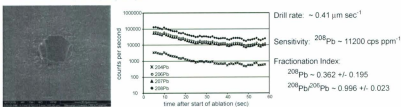
Figure 3-5: Representative MASS-1 (2 J/cm<sup>2</sup>, 5 Hz, 20  $\mu$ m laser spot) time-resolved spectra of individual lead and mercury isotopes (A and B) and corrected  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{209}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{209}\text{Pb}$  (C and D) displaying different fractionation behavior. The fractionation index ( $f$ ), a measure of changes in analyte signals during laser ablation, is listed for each isotope of isotope ratio. The fractionation index is calculated by dividing the mean background corrected intensity of a measured isotope or isotope ratio for the second half of the ablation interval by the mean background corrected intensity of the same measured isotope or isotope ratio for the first half of the ablation interval. In A and B, the intensity of the lead isotopes decreases somewhat faster than the mercury isotopes. The corrected  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{209}\text{Pb}$  in (C) progressively increases over the ablation interval due to systematic errors in the  $^{209}\text{Pb}$  correction related to differences in the fractionation behavior between mercury and lead. This increase is not observed for lead isotope ratios normalized to  $^{209}\text{Pb}$  (D).



A. NIST 612:  $2 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$ , 10 Hz,  $30 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  spot



B. PB-1:  $2 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$ , 10 Hz,  $30 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  spot



C. B41:  $2 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$ , 10 Hz,  $30 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  spot

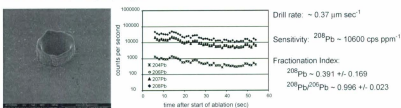
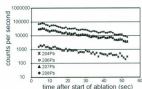


Figure 3-6: Representative laser ablation craters and time-resolved lead isotope spectra, apparent drill rates, sensitivity and fractionation index for NIST 612 and sulfides analyzed using laser ablation conditions of  $2 \text{ J cm}^{-2}$ , 10 Hz and a  $30 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  laser spot. Imaging and calculation details are the same as those given for Figure 3-2.

**A. NIST 612: 2 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 5 Hz, 20 μm spot**



Drill rate:  $\sim 0.31 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$

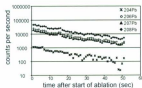
Sensitivity:  $^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 2700 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$

Fractionation Index:

$^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 0.342 \pm 0.182$

$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 1.002 \pm 0.055$

**B. PB-1: 2 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 5 Hz, 20 μm spot**



Drill rate:  $\sim 0.24 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$

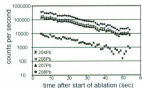
Sensitivity:  $^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 5700 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$

Fractionation Index:

$^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 0.264 \pm 0.148$

$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 1.000 \pm 0.023$

**C. MASS-1: 2 J cm<sup>-2</sup>, 5 Hz, 20 μm spot**



Drill rate:  $\sim 0.72 \mu\text{m sec}^{-1}$

Sensitivity:  $^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 8700 \text{ cps ppm}^{-1}$

Fractionation Index:

$^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 0.189 \pm 0.127$

$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb} \sim 0.992 \pm 0.030$

Figure 3-7: Representative laser ablation craters, time-resolved lead isotope spectra, drill rates, sensitivity and fractionation index for NIST 612 and sulfides analyzed using laser ablation conditions of 2 J/cm<sup>2</sup>, 5 Hz and a 20 μm laser spot. Refer to Figure 3-2 for imaging and calculation details.

### **Supplemental File S3-1: Method – Thermal Ionization Mass Spectrometry (TIMS)**

Feldspar minerals and sulfides chosen for thermal ionization mass spectrometry (TIMS) analysis were in the form of coarse solid fragments prior to dissolution with the exception of USGS MASS-1, which was a powder. All TIMS analytical work was performed in the Boise State University Isotope Geology Laboratory (IGL). For the feldspar minerals, each individual sample was between ~0.003 and 0.01 g. Prior to dissolution, any potential surface contamination was removed from the feldspar separates through a series of steps. First, 1 mL of 3.5 N HNO<sub>3</sub> was added to each sample, the sample was capped and placed on a hot plate at 120 C for ~30 minutes. The HNO<sub>3</sub> was then removed with a pipette and each sample was rinsed three-times with milli-Q H<sub>2</sub>O. 1 mL of 6M HCl was then added to each sample and again each sample was capped and placed on a hotplate set at 120 C. After ~30 minutes, the HCl was removed with a pipette and each feldspar separate was rinsed three-times with 0.5 mL milli-Q H<sub>2</sub>O. Following the milli-Q H<sub>2</sub>O rinse, a mixture of 1 mL concentrated (16M) HNO<sub>3</sub> and 3 mL concentrated (29M) HF was added to each sample. Each feldspar sample was then capped and placed on a hotplate set at ~150 C overnight. For the solid sulfide samples PB-1 and B41, 0.004 to 0.015 g chunks were dissolved in a mixture of 0.5 mL concentrated (16M) HNO<sub>3</sub> and 0.2 mL concentrated (16M) HCl mixture overnight on a hotplate set at ~150 C. Prior to dissolution, each sulfide solid was rinsed three-times with milli-Q H<sub>2</sub>O and sonicated in milli-Q H<sub>2</sub>O for 10 minutes to remove any surface contamination. For MASS-1, the sulfide powder, ~ 0.01 g of powder was dissolved in a

mixture of 3 mL concentrated (16M)  $\text{HNO}_3$  and 1 mL concentrated (16M)  $\text{HCl}$  and fluxed on a hotplate at  $\sim 150^\circ\text{C}$  overnight.

After one night fluxing on a hotplate at  $\sim 150^\circ\text{C}$ , all samples were fully dissolved in their respective acid mixtures. Each sample beaker was then uncapped and placed back on a hotplate under a heat lamp until dry. Once dry, 1 mL of concentrated (16M)  $\text{HCl}$  was added to each sample. Capped samples were then sonicated for  $\sim 1$  hour. An additional 4 mL of 6M  $\text{HCl}$  (feldspar samples and MASS-1) or 1 mL of 6M  $\text{HCl}$  (PB-1 and B41) was added to each sample, the beakers capped and each sample was again placed back on a hotplate set at  $\sim 120^\circ\text{C}$  to flux overnight. After  $\sim 24$  hours on a hotplate, all samples were fully dissolved in 6M  $\text{HCl}$ . Each sample beaker was uncapped and the samples dried down to salts on a hotplate. Both feldspar and sulfide samples were and then converted to  $\text{PbBr}_4^{2-}$  by adding 1 mL 0.5M  $\text{HBr}$  to each sample and placing on the hot plate until dry. Prior to ion exchange chromatography, each sample was redissolved in 1 mL of 0.5M  $\text{HBr}$ . Lead was separated from each matrix using ion-exchange columns filled with 100  $\mu\text{L}$  (resin volume) AG1-X8, 200-400 mesh, and  $\text{HCl}$ -based anion exchange chromatography procedures.

Lead was analyzed on the Isoprobe-T thermal ionization mass spectrometer. Lead was loaded on single  $\text{Re}$  filaments with 1 – 2  $\mu\text{L}$  of a dilute silica gel – 0.1M  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  emitter solution. Lead was measured in static mode, maintaining a  $3\text{V } ^{208}\text{Pb}$  beam for 200 cycles, or, for very small amounts of lead, dynamically peak-switching all ion beams into the Daly detector. TIMS lead isotope ratio results for the feldspars and sulfide minerals adopted for this study are listed in Table S3-2.

### **Supplemental File S3-2: Sample characterization/description**

Prior to analysis, small separates ( $\leq 1$  mm in thickness and no greater than 5 mm in any surface direction) of all silicate glasses, feldspars and sulfides were mounted in 10 mm or 25 mm diameter epoxy resin mounts and once cured, ground down to a flat surface and polished using diamond abrasive to expose a cross-sectional surface of each material. Sulfides and silicates were placed in separate epoxy mounts and the sulfides were polished on polishing cloths specifically designated for sulfide minerals.

The Shap orthoclase has been used in several other investigations (Clift et al., 2008; Tyrrell et al., 2009) as a secondary standard due to its homogeneous lead isotope composition on the  $\mu\text{m}$ -scale of a laser ablation analysis (Tyrrell et al., 2006). The Fish Canyon Tuff (FCT) sanidine has been analyzed for trace element concentrations, including lead, by Bachmann et al. (2005). TIMS lead isotope ratio values for the FCT sanidine adopted for this study are those determined by Hemming and Rasbury (2000). The bulk compositions of all three feldspars are given in Table S3-3.

Three different synthetic sulfides were analyzed as part of this investigation. Bulk analyses of the three sulfides are presented in Table S4-4. Surface images highlighting the differences in physical character of the 3 sulfides analyzed are presented in Figure S3-2.1.

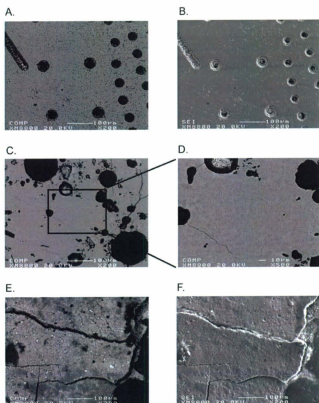


Figure S3-2.1: (A) Back-scattered electron (BSE) and (B) Secondary electron (SE) images of the same surface area of sulfide glass, PB-1. 30 – 40  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter laser ablation pits and line scans mark the surface of the sulfide. (C and D) BSE images of sulfide sinter B-41 taken at two different magnifications. The area within the box in C is image D. The subtle changes in the gray-scale best seen in image D most likely are the result of individual grains approaching their melting points. (E) BSE and (F) SE images of the same surface area of pressed powder pellet MASS-1. Individual grains of different compositions can be readily identified in the BSE image by the varying levels of brightness. All images were collected on the JXA JEOL-8900L superprobe at McGill University.

### **Supplemental File S3-3: Ablation rate determination procedures**

Ablation rates were calculated by dividing the surface to depth distance ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) of a laser ablation crater by the ablation time to produce the crater (seconds). Representative craters for each matrix were drilled under ablation conditions identical to those used for each experiment. In order to monitor changes in pit morphology during the laser ablation interval, representative craters were produced for 10 seconds, 30 seconds and 60 seconds of laser ablation (3 different craters/matrix/set of ablation conditions). Secondary electron (SE) images of each crater were taken using a FEI Quanta 400 environmental secondary electron microscope (SEM) with an accelerating voltage of 15 kV and a beam diameter of 3.14  $\mu\text{m}$ .

The surface to depth distance was determined in a series of steps (Figure A3.1). First, a SE image of the crater was taken to identify major physical features on the floor and walls of the pit. The SEM stage was then tilted to a 35 degree angle and a second SE image of the same crater was taken, making sure the SEM working distance ( $\sim 20$  mm) remained constant. Once distinguishing morphological features on the floor and walls of the crater had been identified, the tilt on the SEM stage was adjusted until the near-side crater rim was in line with the intersection of the crater floor and far-side crater wall (Figure S3-3.1). The tilt angle of the SEM stage was recorded and a third SE image was taken. After the proper tilt angle of the SEM stage was determined, the distance between the near-side crater rim and the crater wall/crater floor intersection point was measured directly from the 'in-line' tilted SE crater image. The surface to depth distance was calculated using the formula:

$$h = w * \tan(90 - \theta)$$

where:

h = surface to depth distance

w = crater width measured from 'in-line' tilted image

$\theta$  = tilt angle of the SEM stage for 'in-line' image

The apparent drill rates calculated are a function of how fast the laser is drilling down into a matrix over a given period of time and how much material is excavated from the crater within the same time interval. Our method also assumes both the sample surface and crater floor intersect the crater walls at right angles and the surface pit width equals the pit width on the crater floor. Determining the crater depth from sample surface to crater floor is critical when calculating drill rates, yet this quantitative measurement is obscured by melt deposition along the crater rim extending above the sample surface, and the build-up of melt droplet piles on the crater floor. The crater depth calculation assumes each crater is a cylinder, with a top and bottom of equal diameter and straight sides. This method does not account for tapering of the crater walls. Although variations exist between matrices, the estimate of the error on our apparent drill rate calculations does not exceed 20% of the calculated ablation rate. For example, if a 2  $\mu\text{m}$  tall rim is associated with each ablation pit, the crater depth would decrease up to 11 % and there would be up to an 11% decrease in calculated drill rates. If we assume an  $\sim 8 \mu\text{m}$  high melt droplet pile on each crater floor, the crater depth would increase by up to 20 %. This translates to an  $\sim 20$  % increase in the drill rates calculated. It is important to note when considering the potential errors on the apparent drill rate calculations that the



difference in drill rates between the  $\sim 30\ \mu\text{m}$  diameter craters and the  $\sim 69\ \mu\text{m}$  diameter craters are still distinct.

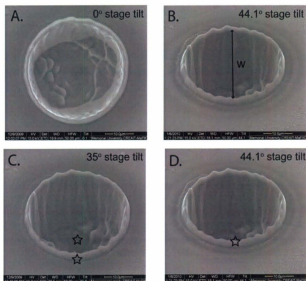


Figure S3-3.1: Secondary electron (SE) crater images. (A) Initial SE image taken to aid in the identification of major morphological features inside the crater. (B) Distance measured on 'in-line' tilt image to determine crater width ( $w$ ). (C) Thirty-five degree stage-tilt SE image. The near-side crater rim and the intersection of the crater floor and far-side crater wall are marked with stars. (D) 'In-line' SE tilt image. The star marks where the near-side crater rim and the intersection of the crater floor and far-side crater wall are lined up.

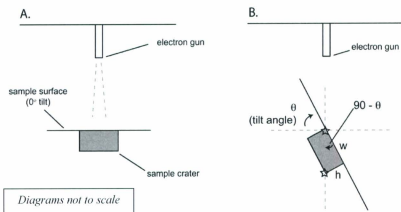


Figure S3-3.2: Schematic cross-section of the SEM chamber with (A) the stage at  $0^\circ$  tilt and (B) the stage tilted to an angle ( $\theta$ ) where the near-side crater rim and the intersection of the crater floor and far-side crater wall are in-line. Both the near-side crater rim and the intersection of the crater floor with the far-side crater wall are marked with stars. The crater width ( $w$ ) and surface to depth distance ( $h$ ) are also labeled. Both diagrams are not to scale.

#### **Supplemental File S3-4: Supplemental File References**

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**Table S2-1.** Calibration values for silicate glasses used for LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope analysis

Sample	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$	2SD	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$	2SD	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$	2SD	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$	2SD	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$	2SD	reference
BCR2-G	18.765	0.014	15.626	0.012	38.73	0.04	0.833	0.002	2.066	0.002	GeoREM preferred
NIST 612	17.099	0.003	15.516	0.002	37.02	0.007	0.90745	0.0017	2.1651	0.001	Baker et al. (2004)
NIST 614	17.842	0.01	15.541	0.001	37.499	0.009	0.87101	0.0004	2.1017	0.001	Baker et al. (2004)

**Table S3-2.** Thermal Ionization Mass Spectrometry (TIMS) Pb isotope ratios for the sulfide and feldspars analyzed and/or included in this investigation.

Sample		$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}^1$	$\%_{\text{NBS}}^{206}\text{Pb}^1$	$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}^1$	$\%_{\text{NBS}}^{208}\text{Pb}^1$	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}^1$	$\%_{\text{NBS}}^{206}\text{Pb}^1$	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}^1$	$\%_{\text{NBS}}^{207}\text{Pb}^1$
PB-1-1	sulfide glass	20.606	0.002	15.839	0.003	39.607	0.003	0.76809	0.0006
PB-1-2	sulfide glass	20.546	0.002	15.829	0.002	39.533	0.002	0.77043	0.0005
PB-1-3	sulfide glass	20.606	0.003	15.832	0.003	39.536	0.003	0.76831	0.0006
	AVERAGE	20.586		15.834		39.559		0.769	
	SD (1s)	0.0346		0.0032		0.0419		0.0011	
	%RSD (1s)	0.17%		0.03%		0.11%		0.15%	
Manol-A	pressed powder	20.000	0.006	15.771	0.006	39.118	0.007	0.7887	0.0010
Manol-B	pressed powder	20.443	0.005	15.810	0.005	39.477	0.005	0.7734	0.0007
Manol-C	pressed powder	20.509	0.004	15.825	0.004	39.553	0.005	0.7716	0.0007
	AVERAGE	20.317		15.802		39.383		0.778	
	SD (1s)	0.2772		0.0278		0.2322		0.0094	
	%RSD (1s)	1.36%		0.18%		0.59%		1.20%	
B41 A	sulfide arrier	18.623	0.004	15.678	0.004	38.209	0.004	0.84419	0.0007
B41 B	sulfide arrier	18.461	0.010	15.672	0.011	38.094	0.011	0.84809	0.0013
B41 C	sulfide arrier	18.613	0.003	15.678	0.003	38.202	0.003	0.8423	0.0008
	AVERAGE	18.566		15.676		38.168		0.844	
	SD (1s)	0.0907		0.0035		0.0642		0.0040	
	%RSD (1s)	0.02%		0.02%		0.17%		0.47%	
SHAP A (lg)	orthoclase	18.267	0.001	15.662	0.001	38.281	0.001	0.8574	0.0003
SHAP B	orthoclase	18.272	0.002	15.649	0.002	38.236	0.002	0.8565	0.0004
SHAP C	orthoclase	18.243	0.002	15.649	0.002	38.240	0.002	0.8578	0.0004
SHAP D	orthoclase	18.302	0.002	15.662	0.002	38.276	0.002	0.8558	0.0004
	AVERAGE	18.271		15.656		38.258		0.857	
	SD (1s)	0.0242		0.0034		0.0236		0.0009	
	%RSD (1s)	0.13%		0.05%		0.06%		0.11%	
159430 (lg)	kyanite	13.308	0.001	14.442	0.001	33.074	0.001	1.0852	0.0003
159430 A	kyanite	13.246	0.015	14.441	0.015	33.060	0.015	1.0902	0.0018
159430B	kyanite	13.272	0.010	14.490	0.010	33.173	0.011	1.0919	0.0050
	AVERAGE	13.275		14.457		33.103		1.089	
	SD (1s)	0.0308		0.0281		0.0612		0.0055	
	%RSD (1s)	0.23%		0.19%		0.19%		0.32%	
Fish Canyon Sandstone (10 gr, 1.3 mg)		18.483	0.043	15.617	0.051	37.865	0.066	0.8449	0.0007
Fish Canyon Sandstone (10 gr, 2.1 mg)		18.461	0.010	15.591	0.016	37.774	0.018	0.8445	0.0002
	AVERAGE	18.472		15.604		37.8025		0.8447	
	SD (1s)	0.016		0.018		0.088		0.000	
	%RSD (1s)	0.08%		0.12%		0.23%		0.03%	

<sup>1</sup> - ratios reported fractionation corrected 0.11‰/amu based upon repeated measurements of NBS-981, NBS-982 and BCR-1

<sup>2</sup> - %<sub>NBS</sub> is internal relative 1-sigma standard error, fractionation uncertainty imposes the following conservative absolute uncertainties (1-sigma): 208Pb/204Pb, 0.010; 207Pb/204Pb, 0.007; 206Pb/204Pb, 0.008; 208Pb/206Pb, 0.009; 207Pb/206Pb, 0.0004

<sup>3</sup> - Pb isotope ratios from Henning and Radbury (2000)

Table S3-3. Major element composition and lead concentration of feldspars analyzed.

SAMPLE	METHOD	SiO <sub>2</sub> wt (%)	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> wt (%)	FeO wt (%)	MgO wt (%)	CaO wt (%)	Na <sub>2</sub> O wt (%)	K <sub>2</sub> O wt (%)	BaO wt (%)	Cl wt (%)	Total	Pb. <sup>2</sup> ppm
Ship orthoclase	EMP <sup>1</sup>	Average (n=10)	18.56	0.08	0.01	0.05	1.61	14.24	0.34	< LD	99.70	-35
	Stilev	0.113	0.020	0.007	0.045	0.786	1.168	0.155				
Fiskerussset bytownite	EMP <sup>1</sup>	Average (n=24)	33.81	0.11	N/A	17.27	1.82	0.04	< LD	0.08	99.88	-6.25
	Stilev	1.185	0.719	0.019	0.823	0.473	0.017	0.046				
FCT sanidine	EMP <sup>1</sup>	Average (n=12)	64.78	18.75	0.11	< LD	2.65	12.46	0.78	< LD	99.69	-20
	Stilev	0.534	0.149	0.024	0.014	0.079	0.155	0.438				

&lt; LD: below detection limits

<sup>1</sup> EMP data for feldspars collected on the JXA-JXOL-4800L superprobe at McGill University with an accelerating voltage of 15 kV, beam current of 20 nA, using a 5  $\mu$ m beam and a 20-second counting time for each element of interest.<sup>2</sup> Ship orthoclase total Pb concentration from [Yrrel et al. (2006)] and average FCT sanidine total Pb concentration from Bachmann et al. (2005)

**Table S3-4: Major element composition and Pb concentration of sulfides analyzed.**

SAMPLE	METHOD	Zn wt (%)	Ni wt (%)	S wt (%)	Fe wt (%)	Co wt (%)	Cu wt (%)	Pb <sup>1</sup> (ppm)
PB-1	EMP <sup>2</sup>	Average (n=22) Stdev	4.897 0.0458	37.475 0.1788	57.046 0.2114	- -	- -	19.417
B41	EMP <sup>2</sup>	Average (n=24) Stdev	6.894 0.8465	36.870 0.5881	51.094 1.9370	- -	4.706 3.3423	15.788
MASS-1	various <sup>3</sup> solution - ICPMS <sup>4</sup>	21 18.74	- -	27.6 -	15.6 11.799	67 -	13.4 13.636	67.273

<sup>1</sup> Pb concentration determined by solution ICP-MS at Memorial University

<sup>2</sup> EMP data for PB-1 and B41 collected on the JXA JEOL-8900L superprobe at McGill University with an accelerating voltage of 20 kV, beam current of 30 nA, using a3 um beam and a 20 second counting time for each element of interest.

<sup>3</sup> Zn, Fe, Cu determined by electron microprobe (EM), solution ICPMS, and ICP atomic emission spectrometry; Co analyzed by solution ICPMS and instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA); S determined by combustion infrared spectroscopy (CIS) (Wilson et al. 2002)

<sup>4</sup> average values determined by solution ICP-MS at Memorial University and Charles University

Table S3-5: LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope ratios for three feldspar matrices (Souders and Sylvester, 2010)

Sample	Analysis ID	Std	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{Pb}$ sd error (1 sigma)	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{Pb}$ sd error (1 sigma)	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{Pb}$ sd error (1 sigma)	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{Pb}$ sd error (1 sigma)	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{Pb}$ sd error (1 sigma)	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{Pb}$ sd error (1 sigma)
Shap orthoclase	cc1386	BCRG	18.334	0.095	15.719	0.092	18.141	0.292
Shap orthoclase	cc1387	BCRG	18.215	0.102	15.615	0.096	18.030	0.300
Shap orthoclase	cc1388	BCRG	18.294	0.097	15.658	0.092	18.229	0.293
Shap orthoclase	msy01012	BCRG	18.102	0.138	15.649	0.099	18.277	0.214
Shap orthoclase	msy01624	BCRG	18.254	0.167	15.806	0.125	18.122	0.291
Shap orthoclase	msy01635	BCRG	18.242	0.182	15.719	0.145	18.135	0.376
Shap orthoclase	msy01632	BCRG	18.263	0.237	15.748	0.262	18.183	0.445
Shap orthoclase	msy01605	BCRG	18.289	0.120	15.711	0.099	18.426	0.266
Shap orthoclase	msy01612	BCRG	18.308	0.128	15.787	0.117	18.466	0.281
Shap orthoclase	msy01635	BCRG	18.293	0.137	15.617	0.124	18.399	0.329
Shap orthoclase	msy01632	BCRG	18.127	0.319	15.487	0.114	18.135	0.290
Shap orthoclase	msy01035	BCRG	18.322	0.204	15.687	0.203	18.267	0.475
Shap orthoclase	msy01612	BCRG	18.229	0.158	15.653	0.143	18.179	0.313
Shap orthoclase	msy02065	BCRG	18.265	0.069	15.639	0.070	18.299	0.161
Shap orthoclase	msy02012	BCRG	18.311	0.088	15.749	0.086	18.314	0.194
Shap orthoclase	cc13819	612	18.262	0.051	15.685	0.047	18.319	0.148
Shap orthoclase	cc13819	612	18.227	0.064	15.680	0.061	18.214	0.171
Shap orthoclase	cc13821	612	18.247	0.069	15.649	0.069	18.242	0.167
Shap orthoclase	msy01604	612	18.407	0.110	15.764	0.082	18.660	0.248
Shap orthoclase	msy02012	612	18.276	0.071	15.731	0.064	18.348	0.143
Shap orthoclase	msy02004	612	18.221	0.074	15.636	0.073	18.086	0.166
Shap orthoclase	msy02012	612	18.337	0.068	15.751	0.064	18.421	0.121
Shap orthoclase	msy02004	612	18.380	0.079	15.672	0.064	18.297	0.155
Shap orthoclase	msy02012	612	18.379	0.068	15.771	0.060	18.581	0.144
Shap orthoclase	msy02024	612	18.338	0.077	15.760	0.076	18.335	0.181
Shap orthoclase	msy02004	612	18.322	0.082	15.697	0.078	18.243	0.173
Shap orthoclase	msy02012	612	18.301	0.094	15.678	0.071	18.088	0.202
Shap orthoclase	msy02004	612	18.246	0.085	15.618	0.090	18.231	0.216
Shap orthoclase	msy02012	612	18.257	0.061	15.690	0.063	18.332	0.178
Shap orthoclase	msy02004	612	18.337	0.095	15.722	0.078	18.284	0.204
FCT sandine	cc01610	BCRG	18.481	0.145	15.595	0.144	17.945	0.319
FCT sandine	cc01611	BCRG	18.464	0.138	15.547	0.139	17.847	0.306
FCT sandine	cc01612	BCRG	18.476	0.134	15.527	0.138	17.913	0.303
FCT sandine	cc01616	BCRG	18.434	0.139	15.544	0.140	17.842	0.304
FCT sandine	cc01617	BCRG	18.477	0.137	15.646	0.142	18.003	0.307
FCT sandine	cc01618	BCRG	18.469	0.140	15.633	0.142	17.967	0.311
FCT sandine	cc01620	BCRG	18.508	0.142	15.546	0.143	17.960	0.310
FCT sandine	cc01626	BCRG	18.472	0.146	15.550	0.144	17.960	0.318
FCT sandine	cc13810	BCRG	18.440	0.109	15.703	0.116	17.915	0.312
FCT sandine	cc13801	BCRG	18.469	0.176	15.695	0.166	17.804	0.436
FCT sandine	cc13812	BCRG	18.467	0.126	15.720	0.118	17.853	0.336
FCT sandine	cc13813	612	18.498	0.098	15.589	0.118	17.829	0.285
FCT sandine	cc13814	612	18.457	0.139	15.587	0.089	17.847	0.320
FCT sandine	cc13815	612	18.470	0.200	15.513	0.166	17.876	0.402



Table S3-5 (continued): LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope ratio values three foldspars from Souder and Sylvester (2010)

Sample	Analysis ID	Std	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$	std error (1-sigma)	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$	std error (1-sigma)	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$	std error (1-sigma)	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$	std error (1-sigma)
Fsk. Bystromite	nc10b10	ICRZG	15.229	0.050	14.473	0.053	33.820	0.312	1.092	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	nc10b11	ICRZG	15.291	0.049	14.553	0.054	33.193	0.317	1.095	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	nc10b12	ICRZG	15.269	0.056	14.433	0.040	33.825	0.009	1.087	0.001
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14a10	ICRZG	15.227	0.172	14.403	0.152	33.082	0.361	1.092	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14a11	ICRZG	15.292	0.155	14.402	0.122	33.822	0.324	1.090	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14a12	ICRZG	15.268	0.149	14.515	0.113	33.263	0.302	1.094	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14a16	ICRZG	15.277	0.162	14.444	0.130	33.070	0.333	1.088	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14a17	ICRZG	15.269	0.146	14.464	0.110	33.093	0.291	1.091	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14b10	ICRZG	15.278	0.098	14.395	0.062	32.991	0.240	1.091	0.003
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14b11	ICRZG	15.169	0.081	14.386	0.080	33.892	0.204	1.092	0.003
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14b12	ICRZG	15.257	0.088	14.435	0.089	33.221	0.219	1.089	0.003
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14b16	ICRZG	15.329	0.095	14.544	0.094	32.234	0.230	1.091	0.004
Fsk. Bystromite	ac14b17	ICRZG	15.257	0.082	14.443	0.085	33.036	0.205	1.091	0.003
Fsk. Bystromite	ac12a04	ICRZG	15.225	0.082	14.478	0.075	32.983	0.166	1.094	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	ac12a05	ICRZG	15.225	0.085	14.473	0.079	32.981	0.181	1.094	0.001
Fsk. Bystromite	ac12a06	ICRZG	15.323	0.080	14.523	0.072	32.114	0.171	1.090	0.001
Fsk. Bystromite	jc20b06	ICRZG	15.262	0.116	14.470	0.100	32.933	0.230	1.091	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	jc20b09	ICRZG	15.319	0.109	14.538	0.100	32.116	0.220	1.091	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	jc20b11	ICRZG	15.360	0.101	14.468	0.082	33.673	0.221	1.091	0.003
Fsk. Bystromite	jc20b12	ICRZG	15.293	0.115	14.492	0.131	33.609	0.267	1.090	0.002
Fsk. Bystromite	ac120a4	412	13.321	0.070	14.490	0.093	33.164	0.219	1.087	0.004
Fsk. Bystromite	ac120a5	412	13.264	0.066	14.517	0.091	33.224	0.212	1.094	0.004
Fsk. Bystromite	ac120a6	412	13.282	0.101	14.348	0.134	32.986	0.300	1.090	0.004

Table S3-6: LA-MC-ICPMS lead isotope ratios for three sulfide matrices (Souders and Sylvestre, 2010)

Sample	Analysis ID	Std	$^{206}\text{Pb} / ^{207}\text{Pb}$	std error (1-sigma)	$^{206}\text{Pb} / ^{208}\text{Pb}$	std error (1-sigma)	$^{207}\text{Pb} / ^{208}\text{Pb}$	std error (1-sigma)	$^{206}\text{Pb} / ^{207}\text{Pb}$	std error (1-sigma)
PB-1	ec25d10	612	20.639	0.090	15.816	0.087	20.707	0.261	0.767	0.003
PB-1	ec25d11	612	20.573	0.123	15.828	0.114	20.589	0.256	0.769	0.003
PB-1	ec25d12	612	20.553	0.145	15.889	0.137	20.408	0.297	0.769	0.003
PB-1	apb6c04	612	20.539	0.173	15.770	0.149	20.431	0.351	0.765	0.003
PB-1	apb6c05	612	20.567	0.157	15.848	0.129	20.508	0.293	0.767	0.003
PB-1	apb6c06	612	20.639	0.122	15.850	0.084	20.511	0.246	0.768	0.003
PB-1	apb6c16	612	20.590	0.240	15.877	0.182	20.654	0.500	0.771	0.003
PB-1	apb6c17	612	20.539	0.164	15.789	0.137	20.329	0.328	0.768	0.003
PB-1	apb6c18	612	20.589	0.203	15.765	0.173	20.468	0.430	0.768	0.003
PB-1	guf6a10	612	20.591	0.160	15.810	0.131	20.491	0.362	0.769	0.003
PB-1	guf6a11	612	20.530	0.158	15.761	0.131	20.403	0.341	0.770	0.003
PB-1	guf6a12	612	20.546	0.212	15.786	0.173	20.561	0.412	0.767	0.003
PB-1	guf6a16	612	20.667	0.162	15.805	0.141	20.544	0.344	0.766	0.004
PB-1	guf6a17	612	20.523	0.133	15.796	0.124	20.286	0.294	0.769	0.003
PB-1	guf6a18	612	20.689	0.146	15.941	0.124	20.432	0.310	0.770	0.003
PB-1	guf6a22	612	20.571	0.206	15.929	0.172	20.564	0.410	0.771	0.003
PB-1	guf6a23	612	20.594	0.281	15.825	0.239	20.682	0.618	0.769	0.004
PB-1	guf6a24	612	20.581	0.188	15.978	0.143	20.372	0.361	0.773	0.003
PB-1	guf6a26	612	20.574	0.223	15.947	0.183	20.561	0.472	0.772	0.004
PB-1	guf6a29	612	20.530	0.198	15.801	0.171	20.442	0.408	0.771	0.003
PB-1	guf6a30	612	20.559	0.157	15.842	0.139	20.329	0.334	0.769	0.004
PB-1	juf10a10	612	20.591	0.175	15.830	0.137	20.529	0.363	0.768	0.003
PB-1	juf10a11	612	20.468	0.220	15.856	0.187	20.154	0.454	0.774	0.003
PB-1	juf10a12	612	20.580	0.168	15.860	0.129	20.477	0.356	0.772	0.003
PB-1	juf10a26	612	20.533	0.130	15.861	0.106	20.448	0.287	0.771	0.003
PB-1	juf10a29	612	20.603	0.160	15.937	0.133	20.654	0.357	0.772	0.003
PB-1	juf10a30	612	20.635	0.142	15.884	0.120	20.583	0.333	0.773	0.003
PB-1	ec25a04	PB-1	20.603	0.084	15.878	0.084	20.536	0.168	0.769	0.002
PB-1	ec25a05	PB-1	20.576	0.110	15.800	0.105	20.620	0.223	0.767	0.002
PB-1	ec25a06	PB-1	20.639	0.111	15.827	0.109	20.636	0.227	0.770	0.002
PB-1	juf6b04	PB-1	20.582	0.212	15.838	0.181	20.643	0.398	0.768	0.003
PB-1	juf6b05	PB-1	20.604	0.205	15.777	0.185	20.301	0.398	0.769	0.003
PB-1	juf6b06	PB-1	20.594	0.230	15.891	0.198	20.440	0.425	0.768	0.003
PB-1	juf6b10	PB-1	20.666	0.181	15.857	0.157	20.433	0.326	0.770	0.003
PB-1	juf6b11	PB-1	20.635	0.189	15.819	0.170	20.599	0.370	0.767	0.003
PB-1	juf6b12	PB-1	20.635	0.214	15.756	0.188	20.303	0.424	0.767	0.003
PB-1	juf6b13	PB-1	20.512	0.176	15.712	0.136	20.302	0.362	0.768	0.003
PB-1	juf6b14	PB-1	20.604	0.139	15.813	0.105	20.548	0.287	0.770	0.003
PB-1	juf6b15	PB-1	20.558	0.117	15.847	0.107	20.601	0.273	0.772	0.003

Table S3-4 (continued): LA-MC-ICP-MS lead isotope ratios for three sulfide matrices (Souders and Sylvestre, 2010)

Sample	Analysis ID	Sd#	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$	sd error (1-sigma)	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$	sd error (1-sigma)	$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$	sd error (1-sigma)	$^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$	sd error (1-sigma)	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$	sd error (1-sigma)
B41	oc11g06	612	18.658	0.435	15.582	0.357	38.242	0.918	0.844	0.005	2.040	0.010
B41	oc11g05	612	18.607	0.143	15.644	0.115	38.125	0.287	0.846	0.003	2.053	0.006
B41	oc11g06	612	18.558	0.285	15.609	0.168	37.795	0.369	0.844	0.004	2.041	0.008
B41	oc25d06	612	18.581	0.162	15.775	0.152	38.111	0.352	0.848	0.003	2.051	0.005
B41	oc25d07	612	18.607	0.225	15.692	0.178	37.948	0.457	0.842	0.004	2.040	0.007
B41	oc25d08	612	18.520	0.178	15.685	0.174	37.987	0.404	0.842	0.003	2.046	0.005
B41	ap06c10	612	18.606	0.151	15.673	0.131	38.057	0.277	0.840	0.003	2.042	0.005
B41	ap06c11	612	18.628	0.142	15.569	0.125	37.979	0.269	0.839	0.003	2.048	0.007
B41	ap06c12	612	18.591	0.251	15.617	0.216	37.807	0.522	0.840	0.004	2.045	0.008
B41	ja06a34	612	18.663	0.178	15.678	0.165	38.044	0.401	0.843	0.004	2.045	0.006
B41	ja06a35	612	18.514	0.201	15.642	0.216	37.801	0.474	0.841	0.004	2.054	0.007
B41	ja06a40	612	18.568	0.243	15.643	0.188	38.065	0.505	0.840	0.003	2.046	0.007
B41	ja06a41	612	18.637	0.209	15.614	0.189	38.094	0.467	0.844	0.004	2.057	0.007
B41	ja06a42	612	18.520	0.281	15.576	0.231	37.858	0.579	0.844	0.005	2.053	0.009
B41	ja06a46	612	18.559	0.182	15.647	0.162	38.092	0.367	0.843	0.004	2.051	0.006
B41	ja06a47	612	18.659	0.178	15.724	0.149	38.210	0.391	0.841	0.004	2.051	0.006
B41	ja06a48	612	18.571	0.211	15.735	0.193	38.146	0.477	0.841	0.005	2.052	0.006
B41	ja06a52	612	18.717	0.235	15.693	0.205	38.203	0.511	0.839	0.004	2.042	0.007
B41	ja06a53	612	18.626	0.211	15.722	0.171	38.063	0.449	0.839	0.004	2.044	0.007
B41	ja06a54	612	18.591	0.234	15.580	0.196	37.793	0.496	0.841	0.004	2.046	0.008
B41	ja06a16	612	18.525	0.221	15.631	0.173	38.014	0.441	0.845	0.003	2.055	0.009
B41	ja06a17	612	18.635	0.159	15.675	0.139	38.092	0.347	0.843	0.003	2.050	0.006
B41	ja06a18	612	18.602	0.202	15.647	0.174	38.119	0.425	0.842	0.004	2.043	0.008
B41	ja06a19	612	18.592	0.250	15.617	0.210	38.067	0.550	0.846	0.003	2.053	0.009
B41	ja06a19	612	18.569	0.171	15.552	0.159	37.827	0.392	0.844	0.004	2.044	0.009
B41	oc11b04	PI-1	18.621	0.145	15.647	0.180	38.068	0.372	0.838	0.004	2.046	0.006
B41	oc11b05	PI-1	18.504	0.163	15.630	0.170	38.241	0.340	0.845	0.003	2.055	0.006
B41	oc11b06	PI-1	18.587	0.182	15.645	0.177	38.122	0.405	0.841	0.003	2.053	0.003
B41	oc25a10	PI-1	18.582	0.159	15.684	0.143	38.106	0.336	0.845	0.002	2.057	0.005
B41	oc25a11	PI-1	18.540	0.171	15.686	0.173	38.073	0.459	0.845	0.002	2.059	0.005
B41	oc25a12	PI-1	18.591	0.255	15.700	0.224	38.012	0.478	0.845	0.003	2.053	0.007
B41	ap06c25	PI-1	18.693	0.163	15.760	0.172	38.108	0.345	0.845	0.003	2.048	0.006
B41	ap06c26	PI-1	18.628	0.161	15.772	0.179	38.111	0.356	0.843	0.003	2.051	0.007
B41	ap06c27	PI-1	18.583	0.208	15.766	0.262	38.095	0.438	0.846	0.004	2.052	0.006
B41	ja06a39	PI-1	18.626	0.150	15.730	0.184	38.331	0.445	0.841	0.004	2.046	0.010
B41	ja06a39	PI-1	18.601	0.210	15.591	0.175	38.022	0.462	0.843	0.004	2.059	0.009
MASS-1	625a10	612	21.024	0.556	16.288	0.435	40.557	1.031	0.777	0.003	1.931	0.008
MASS-1	625a11	612	20.353	0.256	16.110	0.203	40.546	0.458	0.777	0.003	1.944	0.007
MASS-1	625a12	612	20.286	0.262	15.702	0.207	39.670	0.507	0.777	0.003	1.951	0.007
MASS-1	625a25	PI-1	20.034	0.324	15.548	0.237	39.080	0.603	0.776	0.003	1.950	0.006
MASS-1	625a36	PI-1	19.775	0.353	15.527	0.258	38.675	0.656	0.775	0.003	1.949	0.006
MASS-1	625a27	PI-1	21.582	0.382	16.366	0.283	42.261	0.721	0.776	0.003	1.949	0.006

## **Chapter 4: Mantle and crustal sources of Archean anorthosite: a combined in-situ isotopic study of Pb-Pb in plagioclase and Lu-Hf in zircon**

### **Abstract**

Isotopic analyses of ancient mantle-derived magmatic rocks are used to trace the geochemical evolution of the Earth's mantle but it is often difficult to determine their primary, initial isotope ratios due to the detrimental effects of metamorphism and secondary alteration. We present in-situ analyses by LA-MC-ICPMS for the Pb isotope compositions of igneous plagioclase (An 75-89) megacrysts and the Hf isotope compositions of BSE-imaged domains of zircon grains from two mantle-derived anorthosite complexes from southwestern Greenland, Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk, which represent two of the best-preserved Archean anorthosites in the world. In situ LA-ICPMS U-Pb geochronology of the zircon grains suggests that the crystallization age of the Fiskenæsset complex is 2936  $\pm$  13 Ma ( $2\sigma$ , MSWD = 1.5) and the Nunataarsuk complex is 2914  $\pm$  6.9 Ma ( $2\sigma$ , MSWD = 2.0). Initial Hf isotope compositions of zircon grains from both anorthosite complexes fall between depleted mantle and a less radiogenic crustal source with a total range up to 5  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  units. In terms of Pb isotope compositions of plagioclase, both anorthosite complexes share a depleted mantle end member yet their Pb isotope compositions diverge in opposite directions from this point: Fiskenæsset toward a high- $\mu$ , more radiogenic Pb, crustal composition and Nunataarsuk toward low- $\mu$ , less radiogenic Pb, crustal composition. By using Hf isotopes in zircon in conjunction with Pb isotopes in plagioclase we are able to constrain both the timing of mantle extraction of the crustal end member and its composition. At Fiskenæsset, the

depleted mantle melt interacted with an Eoarchean (ca. 3600 - 3800 Ma) mafic crust with  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf} \sim 0.028$ . At Nunataarsuk, the depleted mantle melt interacted with a Hadean (ca. 4100 - 4200 Ma) mafic crust with  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf} \sim 0.0315$ . Evidence from both anorthosite complexes provides support for the long-term survival of ancient mafic crusts that, although unidentified at the surface to date, could still be present within the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk regions.

#### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

Long-lived radiogenic isotope systems (*e.g.* Sm-Nd, Lu-Hf, Pb-Pb) are powerful tracers of geochemical processes. They have been used extensively to track complementary processes such as the geochemical depletion of the mantle and the formation of the crust. Traditionally, for Archean-age rocks, initial Sm-Nd and Lu-Hf and Pb-Pb ratios determined by bulk rock and mineral separate analyses of mantle-derived mafic and ultramafic rocks and juvenile granites have been used to constrain the isotopic evolution of the depleted mantle and crust (*e.g.* Bennett et al., 1993; Lahaye et al., 1995; Bowring and Housh, 1995; Vervoort and Blichert-Toft, 1999; Kamber et al., 2003). The results depend on the assumption that the isotope systematics on the bulk rock scale are robust and parent-daughter ratios have been preserved through subsequent metamorphism or low-temperature alteration. For Archean rocks, accurate measurement of the parent-daughter ratio is essential for determining the initial isotope ratio where potentially large corrections for radiogenic in-growth must be made.

The advancement of laser ablation multi-collector magnetic sector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-MC-ICPMS) has produced new analytical

opportunities for in-situ analysis of individual minerals from mantle-derived rocks, such as Pb isotopes in feldspar and Hf isotopes in zircon. Low parent-daughter ratios (U/Pb in plagioclase and Lu/Hf in zircon) requiring minimal corrections for radiogenic in-growth, and the demonstrated ability to preserve initial isotope compositions through metamorphism and alteration make Pb isotopes in feldspar and Hf isotopes in zircon ideal tracers of mantle evolution and the timing of crust formation (*e.g.* Oversby, 1975; Patchett et al., 1981; Mathez and Waight, 2003; Kemp et al., 2009). The timing, volume and nature of the early crust is a fundamental issue of continuing debate (*e.g.* Stacey and Kramers, 1975; Armstrong 1981; Taylor and McLennan 1995; Chase and Patchett, 1988; Bowring and Housh 1995; Kramers and Tolstikhin 1997; Kamber et al., 2003, 2005; Harrison et al., 2005, 2008; Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 2008; O'Neil et al., 2008; Kemp et al., 2010). Hafnium model ages of zircon can be calculated to constrain the timing of crust extraction yet the results depend critically on the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio of the crustal material separated from the mantle. The  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio of the extracted crust must be constrained, which is commonly done using either petrologic models for the origin of the crust and assuming a bulk crustal source Lu/Hf or by analysis of zircon grains of different ages crystallized from magmas assumed to have been produced by reworking of the same source over time (*e.g.* Amelin et al., 1999; Kemp et al., 2010; Pietranik et al., 2008). Alternatively, there is a general decrease in the Lu/Hf of igneous rocks with increasing silica (Hawkesworth et al., 2010). If the timing of source separation from the mantle (model age) is known, the calculated  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  can be used to evaluate the nature of the crustal source.

To better understand late Archean crust – mantle evolution we will demonstrate

how the timing of source separation from the mantle determined from in-situ Pb isotope ratio measurements of feldspar can be combined with in-situ Hf isotope ratios of zircons from the same igneous rock to constrain the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ , thereby characterizing the nature of the source. To demonstrate this approach, we have studied the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes of south West Greenland (Myers, 1985). Both anorthosite complexes are located within high-grade gneiss terranes yet locally preserve primary igneous structures, textures and mineralogy and are two of the best-preserved Archean anorthosite complexes in the world. Petrologic data indicate that Archean anorthosites and related rocks are the products of mantle-derived magmas (Ashwal, 1993). Through careful selection of the best-preserved, least-deformed samples and in-situ isotopic analysis of igneous domains within minerals, we provide new insights into the source reservoirs of Archean anorthosites. We present data for in-situ U-Pb geochronology and Lu-Hf isotope geochemistry of zircon grains separated from anorthosites and leucogabbros, and in-situ Pb-Pb isotope analysis of plagioclase crystals from anorthosites, leucogabbros and gabbros. This is the first study of Archean anorthosites for in-situ Pb isotopes in plagioclase and only the second for in-situ Hf isotopes in zircon. The integration of the Pb isotope data from feldspars and Hf isotope data from zircons from the same igneous rock has potential applications for determining the timing and nature of ancient (Hadean) crusts.

## 4.2 ARCHEAN ANORTHOSITES

Anorthosites are enigmatic rocks restricted in time and space. They have been identified within many Archean cratons yet make up only a small proportion of Archean

greenstone belts where anorthosites form layered complexes with associated leucogabbros, gabbros and ultramafic rocks. Subsequent magmatism and tectonic activity has disrupted and deformed most Archean anorthosite complexes and today they outcrop as layers and lenses within Archean high-grade gneiss terranes. The metamorphic grade of Archean anorthosites ranges from greenschist through granulite facies, yet many still retain distinct, equidimensional, magmatic plagioclase megacrysts (up to 30 cm in diameter) with calcic compositions ( $\sim \text{An}_{75-90}$ ) (Ashwal, 1993). The shape and composition of the igneous plagioclase crystals is what distinguishes Archean anorthosites from younger terrestrial anorthosites (Proterozoic massifs), which are characterized by sodic ( $\text{An}_{50 \pm 10}$ ), lath-shaped plagioclase crystals (Ashwal, 1993). Similar calcic ( $\text{An}_{92-100}$ ), primordial ( $> 4.4$  Ga) anorthosites are the dominant lithology of the lunar crust, yet it is assumed these anorthosites formed by crystallization and floatation of plagioclase crystals from a magma ocean associated with lunar accretion (see Taylor, 2009, for a review). Archean anorthosites are thought to be the products of mantle-derived magmas that ponded at the base of the crust, crystallized mafic phases there, becoming enriched in aluminum, and then rose to higher levels in the crust where they crystallized calcic plagioclase (Phinney, 1982; Phinney et al., 1989). A recent alternative view proposes that the anorthosite parent magma is generated within a sub-arc mantle wedge where high-Al (Rollinson et al., 2010), LREE, Sr and Ca-enriched (Polat et al., 2009, 2011) partial melts of subducting ocean crust interact with depleted mantle.



#### 4.2.1 Previous Isotopic Studies of Archean Anorthosites

Traditionally, isotopic studies of Archean anorthosites have focused on the Rb-Sr, Sm-Nd and Pb-Pb isotopic systems using whole rock powders and bulk mineral separates analyzed by thermal ionization mass spectrometry (TIMS). Both the Rb-Sr and Pb-Pb systems were typically used for age determination by the isochron method (*e.g.* Black et al., 1973; Gancarz, 1976; Moorbath and Pankhurst, 1976; Pidgeon and Kalsbeek, 1978; Kalsbeek and Pidgeon, 1980; Taylor et al., 1980; Basker Rao et al., 1996; Fletcher et al., 1988). Due to the high mobility of Rb-Sr during metamorphism and fluid alteration, much of these early data must be evaluated with caution. In recent years, particular emphasis has been placed on the Sm-Nd system to fingerprint the source(s) of Archean anorthosite complexes. The general conclusion of this approach is that Archean anorthosite complexes formed from chondritic or depleted mantle sources yet within each locality, there is a large range of  $\epsilon_{Nd}$  (up to  $\sim 12$   $\epsilon_{Nd}$  units; *e.g.* Ashwal et al., 1985, 1989; Barton, 1996; Basker Rao et al., 1996, 2000; Fletcher et al., 1988; Polat et al., 2010). It is ambiguous whether the observed isotopic variability reflects partial melting of heterogeneous mantle sources; mixing of mantle-derived magmas with crustal sources; or disturbance of primary isotopic ratios by secondary processes such as metamorphism and hydrous alteration.

Several recent studies have reported U-Pb and Pb-Pb zircon ages from Archean anorthosites and leucogabbros (*e.g.* Manfred Complex: Kinney et al., 1988; Messina Layered Intrusion: Mouri et al., 2009; Messina Layered Intrusion: Zeh et al., 2010; Fiskensæset Complex: Keulen et al., 2010). Zeh et al. (2010) also analyzed  $\sim 3350$  Ma

zircon grains from two anorthosite samples from the Messina Layered Intrusion, South Africa, for Hf isotopes by LA-MC-ICPMS. Initial  $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  (ca. 3350 Ma) for the anorthosites are  $+1.4 \pm 1.8$  and  $+0.1 \pm 1.9$ , which was interpreted as reflecting slight enrichment of depleted mantle-derived melts by crustal contamination.

A number of the previous isotopic studies have been concerned with Fiskenæsset anorthosites (Black et al., 1973; Gancarz, 1976; Moorbath and Pankhurst, 1976; Pidgeon and Kalsbeek, 1978; Kalsbeek and Pidgeon, 1980; Taylor et al., 1980; Ashwal et al., 1989; Keulen et al., 2010; Polat et al., 2010) but none have dealt with Nunataarsuk anorthosites.

#### **4.3 GEOLOGICAL SETTING OF THE FISKENÆSSET AND NUNATAARSUK ANORTHOSITE COMPLEXES**

Several of the best-preserved Archean anorthosite complexes occur within the greenstone belts and high-grade gneiss terranes of southwestern Greenland (*e.g.* Windley et al., 1973; Myers, 1985; Ashwal, 1993; Owens and Dymek, 1997; Dymek and Owens, 2001; Windley and Garde, 2009). The anorthosite-leucogabbro-gabbro-ultramafic rock complexes typically form concordant, sheet-like bodies or trains of inclusions in amphibolite within the high-grade gneiss complexes. Contact relationships between the anorthosite complexes and mafic country rock are most often obscured by igneous intrusion, deformation and amphibolite to granulite facies metamorphism, yet these relationships are preserved within the Fiskenæsset anorthosite complex (Escher and Myers, 1975).

#### 4.3.1 Fiskenæsset Complex, southwest Greenland

The Fiskenaesset anorthosite complex (Figure 4-1) is one of the most intensely studied Archean anorthosite complexes because it is so well preserved. It covers an area of  $\sim 2500 \text{ km}^2$  between the village of Fiskenæsset on the coast and the inland ice sheet,  $\sim 80 \text{ km}$  to the east. The Fiskenæsset region consists of  $\sim 80\%$  orthogneiss,  $\sim 10\%$  amphibolite and  $\sim 5\%$  anorthosite complex (Myers, 1985). The anorthosite complex is dominated by anorthosite and associated leucogabbro, along with less abundant gabbro and ultramafic rock. These rocks occur within the quartzofeldspathic gneisses as sheet-like layers and tectonic lenses (Windley et al., 1973; Myers, 1985). The sheets are generally less than  $500 \text{ m}$  thick but can extend up to  $\sim 25 \text{ km}$  in length (Myers, 1985).

Preserved contact relationships suggest that the anorthosite complex was originally emplaced as a sill-like body into mafic volcanic rock containing pillow structures (Escher and Myers, 1975). Subsequently, the original sheet-like layers were fragmented by contemporaneous granitoid intrusion and thrusting at  $\sim 2800 \text{ Ma}$  (Pidgeon and Kalsbeek, 1978; Myers, 1985). All the rocks in the Fiskenæsset complex have undergone three phases of intense folding, which has resulted in the formation of complex fold-interference structures with steeply dipping axial surfaces (Myers, 1985). The rocks were metamorphosed to upper-amphibolite or granulite facies and some areas have been retrogressed back to lower-amphibolite or greenschist facies (Windley et al., 1973; Myers, 1985). Metamorphism is thought to have taken place between  $2900$  and  $2660 \text{ Ma}$  (Black et al., 1973; Moorbath and Pankhurst, 1976; Pidgeon and Kalsbeek, 1978; Kalsbeek and Pidgeon, 1980; Taylor et al., 1980) with peak metamorphic conditions

estimated to have reached  $780 \pm 50$  °C and  $8.9 \pm 1$  kbar (~30 km depth) (Riciputi et al., 1990).

The Fiskenæsset region has experienced heterogeneous deformation and metamorphism and some areas, particularly those further inland towards the ice, underwent less-intense deformation and metamorphism no higher than amphibolite facies. Perhaps the best example is Majorqap qāva, an area located in the center of the Fiskenæsset complex, which has undergone intense folding yet has only experienced amphibolite facies metamorphism and minimal retrograde effects. This area is considered one of the best-preserved outcrops of the Fiskenæsset complex and provides a window into the primary igneous mineralogy and textures of Archean anorthosite complexes. It was the area sampled for this study (see below). Igneous features such as mineral and size-graded layering, slump structures, pipe-like bodies and channel-troughs are preserved within this region (Myers, 1976).

A generalized igneous stratigraphy for the Fiskenæsset complex can be reconstructed from observations of units across the region (Windley, 1971; Windley, 1973; Steele et al., 1977; Myers, 1975) but the outcrops at Majorqap qāva represent the most-complete stratigraphic section. Myers (1985) divided the anorthosite complex into seven lithostratigraphic units based on the well-preserved outcrops at Majorqap qāva and examination of all the anorthosite outcrops of the Fiskenæsset region. The seven defined lithostratigraphic units (from bottom to top) are: lower gabbro (LG, 50 m), ultramafic unit (UM, 40 m), lower leucogabbro (LLG, 50 m), middle gabbro (MG, 40 m), upper leucogabbro (60 m), anorthosite (AN, 250 m) and upper gabbro (UG, 50 m), for a total post-deformational thickness of 540 m (Figure 4-2).

Keulen et al. (2010) reported U-Pb LA-ICPMS zircon data for a mixed anorthosite-hornblende dike sample from the Majorqap qáva area.  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages of zircon grains spanned from  $2.95 \pm 0.03$  Ga to  $2.70 \pm 0.03$  Ga with significant populations at  $2919 \pm 7$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ),  $2872 \pm 5$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) and  $2720 \pm 28$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ). They interpreted rare  $\sim 2.95$  Ga grains ( $n = 2$ ) to be representative of the intrusive age of the Fiskenæsset anorthosite complex. Similar emplacement ages also have been inferred from Sm-Nd isotopic data. Ashwal et al. (1989) reported a combined whole rock-mineral (plagioclase + hornblende) Sm-Nd isochron age of  $2860 \pm 50$  Ma (MSWD 2.5) with a calculated initial  $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}$  of  $+2.9 \pm 0.4$  (total range:  $+0.6$  to  $+3.0$ ) for four samples from Majorqap qáva. Polat et al. (2010) determined a Sm-Nd isochron age of  $2973 \pm 28$  Ma (MSWD 33) with an initial  $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}$  of  $+3.3 \pm 0.7$  (total range:  $+1.8$  to  $+5.4$ ) for 46 whole rock samples from Qeqertarsuaq Island, located some 35 km southwest of Majorqap qáva, where metamorphism reached granulite grade.

Most Pb-Pb isotope studies using whole rocks (Black et al., 1973; Pidgeon and Kalsbeek, 1978) and bulk mineral separates (Gancarz, 1976) have given younger ages of  $\sim 2850 - 2750$  Ma, generally interpreted to represent the age of metamorphism in the complex. Polat et al. (2010), however, reported a Pb-Pb whole rock errorchron age of  $2945 \pm 36$  Ma (MSWD=44), similar to the magmatic age inferred from the U-Pb zircon and Sm-Nd whole rock isotopic studies described above.

#### **4.3.2 Nunataarsuk anorthosite complex**

The Nunataarsuk anorthosite complex represents another very well preserved Archean anorthosite complex in south West Greenland yet very little is known about it

(Figure 4-1). The complex was mapped in detail by one of us (J.S. Myers) during the summer 2003 field season. The lithologies present in the Nunataarsuk complex are similar to those found in the Fiskenæsset complex, yet each complex has a distinct and different stratigraphy (Figure 4-2). This stratigraphy was distorted and disrupted by multiple tectonic events. However, the primary way-up of the igneous stratigraphy is known, but the original top and bottom contacts do not appear to be exposed and therefore the known stratigraphy may be incomplete.

Based on 1:10 000 scale mapping and field observations, the Nunataarsuk anorthosite complex is divided into four tectonic slices or thrust sheets. These rocks record several episodes of deformation that generated multiple superimposed fold and thrust structures. They were intruded by dioritic, tonalitic and granitic magmas during three major magmatic episodes. However, both the intensity of deformation and the volume of granitoid intrusions were heterogeneous. In the northern part of the nunatak of Nunataarsuk that was sampled, granitoid intrusions form less than 15% of the geology. Substantial portions of igneous stratigraphy and structure, including mineral- and size-graded layering, survive intact in the anorthosite complex, and igneous textures and minerals, including plagioclase megacrysts, are widely preserved.

A minimum crystallization age for the Nunataarsuk anorthosite complex has been inferred from a LA-ICPMS U-Pb  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of  $2852 \pm 5$  Ma for zircon grains separated from a granite that cross-cuts the anorthosite complex (Næraa and Schersten, 2008).

#### 4.4 SAMPLING AND ANALYTICAL METHODS

Samples of both anorthosite complexes were selected from the best-preserved, least-recrystallized material available. All 16 samples of Fiskenæsset studied here are from Majorqap qava (Figures 4-1, 4-2). They represent the main part of the Fiskenæsset lithostratigraphic sequence and were selected from the Lower Leucogabbro Unit (LLG, 3 samples), the Middle Gabbro Unit (MG, 2 samples), the Upper Leucogabbro Unit (ULG, 7 samples) and the Anorthosite Unit (AN, 4 samples). The mineralogy of all of the anorthosite and leucogabbro samples is dominated by plagioclase megacrysts, ~ 3 mm up to 5 cm in diameter. Mafic minerals are mainly hornblende, with lesser amounts of mica and chromite, and comprise <5% of the anorthosites and 15-30% of the leucogabbros. The gabbros from the Middle Gabbro Unit contain subequal amounts of plagioclase (45-55%) and hornblende and mica.

Six samples were selected from the Nunataarsuk leucogabbro-anorthosite (LG-AN); all are leucogabbros containing 70-90% plagioclase megacrysts with the remainder being mostly amphibole. Three samples are from the lower LG-AN unit, dominated by plagioclase megacrysts, 2 – 5 cm in diameter, and three samples are from the upper LG-AN unit, made up of smaller plagioclase megacrysts, typically only 1 – 5 mm in diameter (Figures 4-1, 4-2).

##### 4.4.1 Plagioclase petrography and sample preparation

Relict igneous plagioclase is present in all samples and was targeted for analysis in this study. It is typically present as darker, gray-colored crystals a few millimeters to several centimeters in diameter, surrounded by milky-white aggregates of smaller,

recrystallized plagioclase crystals, occasionally green or yellow in color (Figure 4-3). Grains that appeared to be strained or affected by secondary alteration were avoided.

Slices from the samples were cut with a saw, and relict igneous plagioclase in megacrysts (anorthosites, leucogabbros) and in the groundmass (gabbros) exposed in the slices were made into polished thin sections ~ 60 – 100  $\mu\text{m}$  thick, suitable for thin section petrography and in-situ microanalysis. A polarized microscope was used to identify the most pristine areas of plagioclase within each thin section for analysis. The target-areas were photographed using plane-polarized light, cross-polarized light and in reflected light. A traverse across the best-preserved region of each plagioclase crystal was planned for in-situ electron probe microanalysis (EPMA) for An-content; LA-ICPMS analysis for Pb concentration; and LA-MC-ICPMS analysis for Pb isotope ratios. Measurement spots were spaced every ~750 – 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ , depending on crystal-size and the inclusion-density. Amphibole inclusions are common within the preserved igneous plagioclase megacrysts (Figure 4-3) but were avoided during in-situ analysis of the feldspar. Laser analyses were excluded where spikes in radiogenic Pb were encountered as the beam drilled below the surface, on the assumption that hidden amphibole inclusions had been inadvertently intersected.

#### **4.4.2 Plagioclase analyses**

Details of the procedures used for the EPMA, LA-ICPMS and LA-MC-ICPMS measurements are given in Supplemental File S4-I. LA-ICPMS spots (49  $\mu\text{m}$ ) were placed directly on the sites of the EPMA analyses. A spot size ranging from 49 to 109  $\mu\text{m}$  was used for the LA-MC-ICPMS measurements, depending on the lead concentration



of the plagioclase grain of interest and the mineral surface area available free of cracks or inclusions. Laser spots for lead isotope analysis were placed directly next to, or as close to, the EPMA and LA-ICPMS trace element analysis location as possible.

#### **4.4.3 Zircon petrography and sample preparation**

In situ LA-ICPMS U-Pb geochronology and LA-MC-ICPMS Lu-Hf isotope analyses were carried out on zircon grains separated from three of the samples analyzed for Pb isotopes in plagioclase in each of the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk complexes. Heavy liquids were used to separate the zircon from bulk samples because searches of thin sections by optical microscopy did not reveal any zircon grains, suggesting that the phase is rare. Kilogram-sized samples were processed, where the material was available, because of the apparent scarcity of large quantities of zircon grains in the anorthositic rocks.

The three Fiskenæsset samples included one sample from the Lower Leucogabbro Unit (LLG, 159437), one sample from the Upper Leucogabbro Unit (ULG, 159394) and one sample from the Anorthosite Unit (AN, 159455) (Figure 4-2). An attempt was made to recover zircon from the Middle Gabbro unit (MG, 159448) of Fiskenæsset, but only a fist-sized sample was available and the zircon yield was minimal (less than 10 zircon grains total) with most grains too small ( $< 40 \mu\text{m}$  diameter) or the surface too damaged by cracks and secondary alteration for in situ analysis. For Nunataarsuk, zircon grains were separated and analyzed from leucogabbro samples, one from the Lower Leucogabbro-Anorthosite Unit (LLG-AN, N03-83) and two others from the Upper Leucogabbro-Anorthosite Unit (ULG-AN, N03-09 and N03-81) (Figure 4-2).

Heavy minerals ( $\rho > 3.32 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ) were isolated from rock samples by clean crushing techniques using a jaw crusher and disc mill and concentrated using methylene iodide heavy liquid and magnetic separation. Following magnetic separation, zircon grains from each sample were picked by hand using tweezers under a binocular microscope and transferred to double-sided tape. Picked zircon grains were mounted in 25 mm epoxy pucks and polished down to a flat surface exposing the center of each grain, removing the outer portion where Pb loss/gain typically occurs. Very few ( $< 25$  grains) zircon grains large enough for laser ablation analysis ( $> 40 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ) were identified by hand picking for most of the anorthosite and leucogabbro samples processed. In order to find more large grains, the entire heavy mineral fraction was also mounted in epoxy. The grains in the epoxy mounts were polished down to expose their centers and zircon grains were distinguished from other heavy minerals using back-scattered electron (BSE) imaging on the scanning electron microscope (SEM). The SEM used is an FEI Quanta 400 variable pressure ("environmental") microscope, operated under high vacuum conditions with an accelerating voltage of 25 keV, a beam current of 10 nA and at a 10 mm working distance. The SEM searches were done both manually and in automated mode using the Mineral Liberation Analysis (MLA) software (Fandrich et al. 2007). All zircon crystals identified by hand-picking or using the SEM were imaged at high resolution in BSE mode to further characterize grain size and shape, reveal any internal structures present and identify potential inclusions that would need to be avoided during laser analysis (Figure 4-4).

#### 4.4.4 Zircon analyses

The methods used for analyses of the zircon for U-Pb geochronology by LA-ICPMS and Hf-isotopic composition by LA-MC-ICPMS are described in Supplemental File S4-2. U-Pb age measurements were made using a 40  $\mu\text{m}$  x 40  $\mu\text{m}$  box raster of the laser beam on discrete domains in the zircon grains identified from BSE images. For the in-situ Hf isotope analyses, a 49  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spot was focused directly on top of, or next to, the U-Pb box raster made in each zircon grain (Figure 4-4).

### 4.5 RESULTS

#### 4.5.1 U-Pb zircon geochronology

LA-ICPMS U-Pb zircon geochronology results for the Fiskeneset samples are presented in Table 4-1 and Figure 4-5, and for the Nunataarsuk samples in Table 4-2 and Figure 4-6. A detailed summary of the method is included in Supplemental File S4-2. Age determinations were calculated using the decay constants of Jaffey et al., (1971) and the present day  $^{238}\text{U}/^{235}\text{U}$  ratios of 137.88. Final ages and Concordia diagrams were produced using the Isoplot/Ex macro (Ludwig, 2003).  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages are calculated using weighted mean diagrams in which the mean is weighted by data point errors only and the error is given as 2-sigma ( $2\sigma$ ). For all unknown zircon grains, in order for the analyses to be included within the final data set the following quality-control criteria had to be met: (1) The average measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio must fall within 2-sigma uncertainty of the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio calculated from the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$  ratios determined by the intercept method (Sylvester and Ghaderi, 1997), (2) the analysis cannot be more than 2% discordant and (3) no common Pb above background can be detected.

#### 4.5.1.1 Fiskenæsset

Zircon grains from Fiskenæsset ULG 159394 have a significant range of size ( $< 40 \mu\text{m} - 500 \mu\text{m}$ ) and shape. Zircon grains are both intact crystals, commonly with rounded edges, and crystal fragments with irregular, sometimes sub-rounded to rounded, grain boundaries. Using BSE imaging, most grains appear relatively homogeneous yet faint patchy or sector zoning is visible in some grains. Zones of secondary alteration, darker in BSE, occur along some grain boundaries and pathways within the crystal structure such as fractures or crystallographic discontinuities (Figure 4-4). Forty-nine U-Pb LA-ICPMS analyses of 38 zircon grains fit within the established quality-control criteria (listed above) and yield a range of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages from  $2949 \pm 10 \text{ Ma}$  to  $2690 \pm 9 \text{ Ma}$  ( $1\sigma$ ) (Figure 4-5). Both U-concentration and Th/U ratio are correlated with  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age within this population of concordant analyses. Zircon grains with the oldest  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages define a discrete age population and have the lowest U-concentrations ( $< 100 \text{ ppm U}$ ) and the highest Th/U ratios ( $> 0.375$ ) (Figure 4-5). The weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of the two oldest grains (3 analyses) with the lowest U-contents and highest Th/U ratio is  $2936 \pm 13 \text{ Ma}$  ( $2\sigma$ ,  $\text{MSWD} = 1.5$ ). We interpret this age to be the minimum crystallization age of the Fiskenæsset complex (discussed below). The age is within error of the oldest U-Pb zircon ages reported by Keulen et al. (2009) and both the whole rock Sm – Nd isochron age and Pb-Pb errorochron age of Polat et al. (2010).

U-Pb zircon ages were also determined for zircon grains from two other Fiskenæsset samples (LLG 159437 and AN 159455). Zircon crystals from both samples

were similar in size and morphology to zircon grains from sample ULG 159394. Both round crystals (up to ~ 400 µm diameter) and crystal fragments (< 40 µm to 400 µm) with sub-rounded to rounded grain boundaries occur in both samples (Figure 4-4). Ten analyses of ten zircon grains from LLG 159437 within the established quality-control criteria for U-Pb analyses have  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages ranging from  $2812 \pm 11$  Ma to  $2774 \pm 5$  Ma (1 $\sigma$ ) (Figure 4-5). Zircon grains from ULG 159394 show a trend to higher U-concentration and lower Th/U with decreasing  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age (Figure 4-5).

Twenty-one analyses from 19 zircon crystals and crystal fragments from anorthosite sample 159455 meet the U-Pb age quality-control criteria and have  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages spanning from  $2824 \pm 11$  Ma to  $2661 \pm 5$  Ma (1 $\sigma$ ) (Figure 4-5). No correlations between age and Th/U ratio or age and U-concentration are found for this sample.

#### *4.5.1.2 Nunataarsuk*

Zircon grains analyzed from Nunataarsuk leucogabbro N03-83 range in size from less than 40 µm to ~ 400 µm. All grains are crystal fragments with irregular grain boundaries and, in most cases, rounded corners. Faint growth zoning is observed within a few zircon grains yet most zircons lack any internal structure (Figure 4-4). Eighteen analyses from 13 zircon grains fit within the established U-Pb geochronology age criteria and yield a range of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age from  $2926 \pm 9$  Ma to  $2730 \pm 7$  Ma (1 $\sigma$ ) (Figure 4-6). All of the zircon grains analyzed from this sample have U concentrations less than 255 ppm (Figure 4-6). The weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age of the six oldest dates (from 4 zircon grains) with some of the highest Th/U ratios (0.38 – 0.63), lowest U concentrations

(28 – 60 ppm U) and falling within 1 $\sigma$  error of each other is  $2914 \pm 6.9$  Ma (2 $\sigma$ , MSWD = 2.0). We interpret  $2914 \pm 6.9$  Ma to be the minimum magmatic age of the Nunataarsuk anorthosite complex and all younger ages recorded for this sample are the result of recrystallization or Pb loss due to subsequent tectonic and igneous activity. This age for leucogabbro N03-83 is some 60 Ma older than the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age previously reported for a granite that cuts across the Nunataarsuk complex (Næraa and Schersten, 2008).

Like sample N03-83, zircon grains from leucogabbro N03-09 are all crystal fragments ranging in size from < 50  $\mu\text{m}$  up to ~ 300  $\mu\text{m}$ . Irregular grain boundaries are common with some rounded corners. Very faint sector and patchy zoning and/or trails of inclusions are observed within a few crystal fragments (Figure 4-4). Twenty-seven analyses of twenty-six zircon grains fit within the quality-control criteria for U-Pb zircon analyses and define a range of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages from  $2901 \pm 8$  Ma to  $2641 \pm 12$  Ma (1 $\sigma$ ) (Figure 4-6). In contrast to other samples analyzed, a range of U concentrations is observed at a given  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age (e.g. at ~ 2875 Ma U ranges from 46 – 387 ppm) with a slight, but highly scattered ( $r^2 = 0.1705$ ), trend of increasing U concentration with increasing age. A range of Th/U ratios for a given age is observed yet there is a general increase in the Th/U ratio with increasing age (Figure 4-6). It is difficult to assign a single age to this sample due to the spread, or smear, of ages along concordia and as seen on the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  weighted mean plot.

Eleven analyses from 11 different zircon grains from leucogabbro sample N03-81A fit within the acceptable criteria for U-Pb zircon analyses. The analyzed grains from sample N03-81A range in size from ~ 50  $\mu\text{m}$  up to ~ 500  $\mu\text{m}$  and represent a variety of

morphologies from subhedral to well-rounded crystals to crystal fragments with irregular grain boundaries. Internal structures, high-U inclusions and apatite inclusions are observed in a few of the larger, individual crystals while most of the rounded crystals lack any internal structure (Figure 4-4). The 11 analyses yielded a range of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages spanning from  $2838 \pm 7$  Ma to  $2556 \pm 6$  Ma ( $1\sigma$ ) (Figure 4-6). As evident on both the concordia plot and the weighted mean plot, the spread of ages makes assigning a single age for sample N03-81A difficult. There are no significant correlations between U concentration or Th/U ratio and age (Figure 4-6).

#### 4.5.2 In-situ Lu-Hf isotopes in zircon

Lu-Hf isotope results are given for the Fiskenæsset samples in Table 4-3, for the Nunataarsuk samples in Table 4-4, and for natural zircon standards in Supplemental Table S4-2.2 of Supplemental File S4-2. A detailed summary of the method is included in Supplemental File S4-2. The initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  values are calculated for each *in situ* analysis of zircon using the measured  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  and  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios, the  $^{176}\text{Lu}$  decay constant of Söderlund et al. (2004) ( $\lambda = 1.867 \times 10^{-11}/\text{yr}$ ) and the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages interpreted here as the crystallization age for each anorthosite complex (Fiskenæsset = 2936 Ma; Nunataarsuk = 2914 Ma). The initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  could also be calculated using the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age measured at the laser spot corresponding to each pair of Lu-Hf and U-Pb analyses in zircon. There is little difference however in the calculated initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  using the interpreted age of the complex vs. the measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age for each analytical spot (maximum net difference of ~ 0.005% and 0.004% for zircon grains from Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk, respectively), due to the low  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios of the

zircon analyzed. Epsilon Hf values are calculated using the present-day CHUR  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  and  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  values of 0.282785 and 0.0336, respectively (Bouvier et al., 2008). The depleted mantle model of Griffin et al. (2000) modified by Andersen et al. (2009) to the  $^{176}\text{Lu}$  decay constant of Söderlund et al. (2004) and present-day CHUR Lu-Hf composition of Bouvier et al. (2008) was used as a reference. This model has a present-day  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  value of 0.28325 ( $\epsilon\text{Hf} = +16.4$ ) at  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf} = 0.0388$ , similar to modern-day MORB.

#### 4.5.2.1 Fiskenæsset

Zircon grains from all three Fiskenæsset samples analyzed form horizontal arrays on the plots of initial ( $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ )<sub>2936 Ma</sub> vs. measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age for each laser spot (Figure 4-7). There are no distinct changes in initial ( $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ )<sub>2936 Ma</sub> with respect to measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  zircon ages for zircons from Fiskenæsset. This suggests the zircon grain has retained its magmatic Hf isotope composition through recrystallization and Pb loss. Thirteen analyses of 11 zircon grains from ULG 159394 have an average ( $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ )<sub>2936 Ma</sub> of  $0.280975 \pm 55$  ( $2\sigma$ ) corresponding to  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}(2936 \text{ Ma})}$  of  $+3.1 \pm 1.9$  ( $2\sigma$ ). The total range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}(2936 \text{ Ma})}$  for sample 159394 is 3.8  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  units, from +1.2 to +5.0 (Figures 4-8, 4-9). Three analyses from zircon grains retaining their magmatic  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age have ( $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ )<sub>2936 Ma</sub> from 0.281008, or  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}(2936 \text{ Ma})}$  of +2.3 to +4.2, respectively. Ten analyses of ten grains from LLG 159437 have an average ( $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ )<sub>2936 Ma</sub> of  $0.280936 \pm 40$  ( $2\sigma$ ), which translates to an  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}(2936 \text{ Ma})}$  of  $+1.7 \pm 1.4$  (Figure 4-7). The total range in  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}(2936 \text{ Ma})}$  for this sample is 2.6 epsilon-units (Figure 4-8, 4-9). Seven analyses of 6 zircon grains from anorthosite sample 159455 have an



( $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ )<sub>2936\text{Ma}}</sub> of  $0.280965 \pm 48$  (2 $\sigma$ ), corresponding to an average  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2936\text{ Ma})$  of  $+2.7 \pm 1.7$  (Figure 4-7). The range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2936\text{ Ma})$  for this sample is from  $+1.6$  to  $+4.0$ , or 2.4 epsilon-units (Figures 4-8, 4-9).

There is very little observable difference in the total range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  compositions from each of the three Fiskensæset samples analyzed (Figures 4-7, 4-8, 4-9). The total range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values for each unit all overlap suggesting that zircons analyzed from all three samples could have crystallized from the same parent magma. The within sample heterogeneity of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  is greater than the analytical uncertainty ( $\pm 0.7$   $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  units (1.2  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  units total range), determined by the average external reproducibility of assumed homogeneous natural zircon reference materials, Supplemental Table S4-2.2, Supplemental File S4-2) for all three Fiskensæset samples analyzed. The within sample  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  heterogeneities implies multiple sources of distinct Hf isotopic composition contributed to the parent magma of the anorthosite complex.

#### 4.5.2.2 Nunataarsuk

A majority of the zircon grains analyzed from the Nunataarsuk samples form a horizontal array with no obvious increase in initial ( $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ )<sub>2914 Ma} with decrease  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age (Figure 4-7), suggesting that, like for Fiskensæset, zircon recrystallization and Pb loss has not affected the magmatic Hf-isotope compositions significantly. An exception is the  $\sim 2600$  Ma zircon population in ULG-AN N03-81A, which has a distinct Hf isotope composition, more radiogenic than the  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  defined by the older magmatic population. Eight zircon grains analyzed from leucogabbro sample N03-83 have an average ( $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ )<sub>2914 Ma} of  $0.280977 \pm 64$  (2 $\sigma$ ), which corresponds to an</sub></sub>

average  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2914 \text{ Ma})$  of  $+2.5 \pm 2.3$ . The  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2914 \text{ Ma})$  for all zircons analyzed from sample N03-83 ranges from  $+0.6$  to  $+4.8$  (Figures 4-8, 4-10). The four oldest grains (six analyses) comprising the 2914 Ma igneous age zircon population have  $(^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf})_{2914 \text{ Ma}}$  from 0.280923 to 0.281042 and a range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2914 \text{ Ma})$  from  $+0.6$  to  $+4.8$ , defining the  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  range for the sample. Eighteen analyses of 16 different zircon grains separated from leucogabbro N03-09 yielded an average  $(^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf})_{2914 \text{ Ma}}$  of  $0.280982 \pm 64$  ( $2\sigma$ ) corresponding to an average  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2914 \text{ Ma})$  of  $+2.7 \pm 2.3$  with a total  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2914 \text{ Ma})$  range of 4.7 epsilon-units ( $-0.1$  to  $+4.6$ ; Figures 4-8, 4-10).

In contrast to all other samples analyzed, leucogabbro sample N03-81A contains two zircon populations with distinct  $(^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf})_{2914 \text{ Ma}}$  values (Figure 4-7). Four of the nine zircon grains analyzed have  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages from 2629 Ma to 2838 Ma and an average  $(^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf})_{2914 \text{ Ma}}$  of  $0.288970 \pm 60$  ( $2\sigma$ ). This corresponds to an average  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2914 \text{ Ma})$  of  $+2.4 \pm 2.1$  (total range  $+2.3$   $\epsilon$ -units) (Figure 4-10). The other 5 zircon grains analyzed have  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages from 2566 to 2601 Ma and have an average  $(^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf})_{2914 \text{ Ma}}$  of  $0.281107 \pm 44$  ( $2\sigma$ ), corresponding to an average  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(2914 \text{ Ma})$  of  $-0.2 \pm 1.6$  and a total range of 2  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  units (Figures 4-7, 4-10).

With the exception of the young zircon population in ULG-AN N03-81A, there is little difference between the ranges in Hf isotope compositions of zircon grains from the three Nunataarsuk samples analyzed. Figure 4-10 shows the overlapping range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values for each sample suggesting that all Nunataarsuk zircon grains could be derived from the same parent magma. Also similar to Fiskensæset, the total  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  range for each sample is  $\sim 2$  times greater than analytical uncertainty, suggesting the parent magma of the

Nunataarsuk anorthosite complex was derived from multiple sources with distinct Hf isotope compositions.

#### **4.5.3 Pb isotopes in plagioclase**

A summary of the measured Pb isotope data for plagioclase in Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk is provided in Table 4-5 and Figures 4-9 and 4-10. Results for each individual analysis are listed in Supplemental Tables S4-3.1 and S4-3.2 of Supplemental File S4-3. The addition of unsupported radiogenic lead in feldspars has plagued the determination of initial Pb isotope compositions. To ensure that the measured Pb isotope ratios represent the initial Pb isotope compositions for the plagioclase analyzed only the best-preserved plagioclase crystals were selected for Pb isotope analysis. Megacrysts range in size from ~0.5 cm to 3 cm in diameter and are typically surrounded by a recrystallized matrix dominated by plagioclase, amphibole and pyroxene. Analyses were made across the centers of the plagioclase megacrysts that had not been affected by recrystallization or fluid alteration (Figure 4-3). Traverses across megacrysts were planned to avoid analyses near cracks or mineral inclusions, typical sources of unsupported radiogenic Pb in feldspars. Two additional steps were taken to further ensure the measured Pb isotope ratios were not contaminated by radiogenic Pb: (1) if continuous U counts above background were recorded throughout Pb isotope measurements the analysis was discarded and (2) in-growth corrections were made for all analyses where U and Th were detected above background during trace element analysis by LA-ICPMS. Corrections for radiogenic Pb were made using the measured U and Th concentrations and the crystallization age of the respective anorthosite complex (Fiskensæset = 2936 Ma,

Nunataarsuk = 2914 Ma). In-growth corrected Pb isotope ratios for Fiskenæsset samples were no more than 0.06 % different than the measured ratios and Nunataarsuk samples were all less than 0.065 % different. If the corrected Pb isotope ratios were outside of the 1-sigma internal error for each measured Pb isotope ratio the analysis was disregarded.

#### 4.5.3.1 *Fiskenæsset*

The  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios measured for samples from the Fiskenæsset complex are plotted in Figure 4-9 along with plagioclase An number and Pb concentration as a function of stratigraphic position within the intrusion. Also shown are relative probability histograms for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  in each unit and for the complex as a whole. When all analyses for the Fiskenæsset complex are combined, each of the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios form a continuum on a relative probability histogram with large ranges of  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios from 12.81 to 13.47 (range = 5.1 %),  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  from 14.04 to 14.66 (range = 4.3 %) and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios between 31.97 and 33.38 (range = 4.3 %). The overall average  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios for the Fiskenæsset complex are  $13.21 \pm 0.13$  (1SD, 1.0 % RSD),  $14.36 \pm 0.16$  (1SD, 0.8 % RSD) and  $32.76 \pm 0.26$  (1SD, 0.8 % RSD), respectively. The extent of the Pb-isotope variability measured in the plagioclase from Fiskenæsset is far beyond that expected from analytical uncertainty from the LA-MC-ICPMS method. Repeated measurements of standard reference materials (MPI-ATHO-G and MPI-T1-G) at similar signal intensities as the unknown plagioclase measured over the course of all analytical sessions have uncertainties of 0.30 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ) for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , and 0.45 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ) for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (Supplemental Table S4-1.1, Supplemental File S4-1).

There is little discernable Pb isotope variation within individual units of the Fiskenæsset complex. All Pb isotope ratios measured for a unit define a unimodal population (Figure 4-9) and average Pb isotope ratios, maxima on the relative probability histograms, all fall within 1SD of the overall average for the Fiskenæsset complex (e.g.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ : LLG =  $13.07 \pm 0.09$  (0.75 % RSD,  $1\sigma$ ); MG =  $13.18 \pm 0.09$  (0.72 % RSD,  $1\sigma$ ); ULG =  $13.12 \pm 0.13$  (1.01 % RSD,  $1\sigma$ ); AN =  $13.05 \pm 0.11$  (0.85 % RSD  $1\sigma$ )) (Figure 4-9, Table 4-5, Supplemental Table S4-3.1, Supplemental File S4-3). The Pb isotope variability within a single unit can be evaluated using the average Pb isotope ratios for each sample/individual megacryst. The Pb isotope variability for each magmatic unit is similar to the variability for the entire Fiskenæsset complex. Within-unit variations in Pb isotope composition are greater than analytical uncertainties yet do not exceed 0.92 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ), 0.95 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ), 1.01 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ), and 0.85 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ) for the LLG, MG, ULG and AN units, respectively (Table 4-6). The Pb isotope ratios measured within a single sample/individual megacryst display the greatest heterogeneity with variations up to 1.28 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ) (Supplemental Table S4-3.1, Supplemental File S4-3). There is no correlation between Pb isotopic variability and Pb concentration.

#### 4.5.3.2 Nunataarsuk

The  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios measured in plagioclase megacrysts from six Nunataarsuk leucogabbro-anorthosite samples are plotted in Figure 4-10, along with the An contents and Pb concentrations for each individual plagioclase megacryst analyzed. The average Nunataarsuk  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  are  $12.66 \pm 0.16$  (1 SD, 1.3 % RSD),  $13.96 \pm 0.13$  (1 SD, 0.9 % RSD) and  $32.37 \pm 0.30$  (1 SD, 0.9 % RSD), respectively

(Table 4-5, Supplemental Table S4-3.2, Supplemental File S4-3). The total range of Nunataarsuk  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  is 12.24 to 12.91 (range = 5.3 %),  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  is 13.63 to 14.23 (range = 4.3 %) and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  is 31.54 to 32.93 (range = 4.3 %). The Pb isotope variability exceeds the analytical uncertainty of the LA-MC-ICPMS method indicating that natural Pb isotope variations exist within the Nunataarsuk complex.

Similar to Fiskeneset, there is very little isotopic variability between the two Nunataarsuk units analyzed. On a relative probability histogram, compiled  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  from Nunataarsuk each define a unimodal peak skewed towards higher Pb-isotope ratios (Figure 4-10). The average  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for each of the two units analyzed, defined by the histogram maxima, are within 1 SD of the average Pb ratios for Nunataarsuk as a whole (e.g.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ : LLG-AN =  $12.64 \pm 0.17$  (1.4 % RSD,  $1\sigma$ ); ULG-AN =  $12.68 \pm 0.17$  (1.3 % RSD,  $1\sigma$ )). Pb isotope variability for each unit, determined using the average Pb isotope ratios for each sample/individual megacryst does not exceed 1.4 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ) (Table 4-5). Variation within a Nunataarsuk sample/individual megacryst is greater than analytical error yet does not exceed 1.02 % RSD ( $1\sigma$ ) (Supplemental Table S4-3.2, Supplemental File S4-3).

#### 4.6 DISCUSSION

The Fiskeneset and Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes exhibit significant isotopic heterogeneity in Hf and Pb preserved, respectively, in zircon (magmatic domains and recrystallized domains retaining magmatic compositions, distinguished on the basis of U-Pb ages) and plagioclase (texturally distinct igneous megacrysts). The heterogeneity is most apparent on the scale of individual crystals in a sample, less so between the

averages of results from different hand samples, and not discernable between the averages of results from individual units of the magmatic stratigraphy. The implication is that significant isotopic heterogeneity existed in the parent magmas of both complexes but that the heterogeneities average out over the scale of the entire intrusion, though not at the scale of individual crystals, during crustal transport and/or emplacement. Models for the dynamics of modern basalt magmas suggest that they travel very quickly ( $\sim 1\text{--}2.5$  kyr) from their source regions in the asthenosphere (60–120 km depth) up to mid-ocean ridges at the surface, preserving isotopic heterogeneities inherited from the melting zone (Connolly et al., 2009). Similar models do not exist for Archean anorthosite complexes because insufficient detail is known about their magmatic histories. It is therefore important to constrain the nature of the magmatic sources of the isotopic heterogeneities in the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk complexes not only to understand how their parent magmas were generated but also to provide information for the development of models for their transport and emplacement.

#### **4.6.1 Hf isotope variability and potential end members**

The range of zircon  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values from a single rock reflects the heterogeneity of the parent melt. The within sample  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  variability of zircon grains from the three Fiskenæsset samples analyzed and the three Nunataarsuk samples analyzed exceeds analytical reproducibility suggesting measurable Hf isotope heterogeneity existed in the parent magma for each anorthosite complex. The range and average values of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  from individual samples overlap with one another within each of the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk complexes. This suggests that the samples from each complex were derived

from a common (albeit heterogeneous) parent magma (Figures 4-8 to 4-10). The observed range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values (Fiskensæset samples: 4.4  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  units; Nunataarsuk samples: 4.9  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  units) is most likely the result of open system behavior such as crustal contamination or magma mixing, between sources with distinct Hf isotope compositions, in each of the parent magmas of the 2 complexes.

The most straight-forward interpretation of the  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  data for both Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk is that both anorthosite complexes were derived from a heterogeneous parent magma representing a mixture between  $\sim 2900$  Ma depleted mantle (high  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$ ) and either  $\sim 2900$  Ma CHUR compositions or older crustal components (low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$ , Figure 4-8). Zircon grains with higher  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values represent a greater depleted mantle component in their parent magma while zircon grains with lower  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values contain more of the CHUR-like, or crustal, end-member. Derivation from a depleted mantle source is consistent with the proposed model for Archean anorthosite petrogenesis (Phinney 1982; Phinney et al., 1989) and at Fiskensæset is supported by previous whole rock Nd isotope investigations (Ashwal et al., 1989; Polat et al., 2010) but the significance of the lower  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end member is unclear. The low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end member may be derived from CHUR or a crustal source, and if it does represent crust, it is desirable to constrain the age and composition (mafic vs. felsic) of the crust.

Assuming the upper  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end members for Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk are representative of  $\sim 2900$  Ma depleted mantle, more complex multi-source histories can be considered by assuming a  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for the source of the lower  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end member and calculating a Hf depleted mantle model age ( $T_{\text{DM}}(\text{Hf})$ ). In Figure 4-8, Fiskensæset and



Nunataarsuk Hf depleted mantle model ages are calculated for the lower  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end member composition using a range of  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  values. The  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  is characteristic of the nature of the source and generally decreases with increasing silica. Typical  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for felsic rocks range from  $\sim 0.05$  to  $\sim 0.015$ , with Archean tonalites generally having a  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf} < 0.01$  (Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 2008; Martin, 1995; Pietranik et al., 2008). The  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of the modern continental crust is  $0.013 - 0.014$  (Taylor and McLennan, 1995). Mafic rocks and komatiites tend to have higher  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ , from  $\sim 0.02$  to  $> 0.030$  (Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 2008; Pietranik et al., 2008; Blichert-Toft and Puchel, 2010). Depleted mantle model ages for Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk increase with increasing  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  (Figure 4-8) yet without additional constraints on the timing of source separation, a unique solution for the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio of the low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  source cannot be made.

#### 4.6.2 Pb isotope variations, end members and characterizing the nature of the source

Multiple isotope systems are often utilized in geological investigations to identify the effects of secondary alteration and metamorphic disturbance in magmatic systems and to determine the source and nature of multi-component magmatic systems involved in the origin and evolution of the continental crust. Measurements are made on the same material (e.g., bulk rock powder or single zircon crystal) and the results often correlated on an analysis-by-analysis basis (e.g.  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  or  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for whole rocks or  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  vs.  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  for an individual zircon grains). The Lu-Hf isotope systematics of zircon grains from Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk fail to provide a unique solution for the source and nature for the low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end members of both anorthosite

parent magmas. We can demonstrate however that by using Hf isotopes in zircon in conjunction with Pb isotopes in plagioclase, both the timing of source extraction and the nature of the end member sources can be constrained for both the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk complexes. The results of each individual data set can be linked because the plagioclase and the zircon both crystallized from the same magma yet because the results consist of two separate isotopic measurements on two different minerals they cannot be correlated on an analysis-by-analysis basis.

Isotopic variations in Pb beyond analytical uncertainties are observed for the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk complexes. The most radiogenic Nunataarsuk Pb isotope compositions and the least radiogenic Fiskenæsset Pb isotope compositions cluster around the ~2900 Ma depleted mantle model Pb isotope composition (Kramers and Tolstikhin, 1997), consistent with a proposed depleted mantle source for Archean anorthosites (Figure 4-11A). From this point, the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk Pb isotope compositions diverge in opposite directions (Figure 4-11A). The divergent trends suggest the depleted mantle source interacted with two distinct end members with unique Pb isotope compositions: A more radiogenic Pb source at Fiskenæsset, not identified in the Nunataarsuk Pb isotope data, and a low- $\mu$  end member at Nunataarsuk, not observed at Fiskenæsset.

A number of possible scenarios provide potential solutions to constrain the Pb isotope end members at Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk yet only a few provide acceptable solutions to explain both the Hf and Pb isotope data collected in this investigation. For both Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk, the Pb data rule out mixing between depleted and primitive mantle sources – that is, one end member with an isotopic composition similar

to ~ 2900 Ma depleted mantle and a second end member with an isotopic composition similar to ~ 2900 Ma CHUR. While this scenario is a plausible solution for both the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk Hf isotope data (Figure 4-8), it is inconsistent with the Pb isotope data because the estimated Pb isotope composition for the ~ 2900 Ma bulk silicate earth (BSE, Galer and Goldstein, 1996), analogous to CHUR, falls distinctly above and off of the trend of both Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk Pb isotope compositions (Figure 4-11A).

In contrast, if a crustal end member is considered, several solutions can be derived to describe the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk Pb isotope data. Fiskenæsset Pb isotope compositions follow a trajectory from ca. 2900 Ma depleted mantle to higher  $\mu$ -values (Figure 4-11A). Specifically, a high- $\mu$  source that separated from the mantle ca. 3700 Ma with a minimum  $\mu \sim 12$  provides a reasonable solution for these observations (Figure 4-11B). Source separation (model ages) between ca. 3600 Ma and ca. 3800 Ma with minimum  $\mu \sim 12$  would also be compatible with the Fiskenæsset Pb isotope data.

Nunataarsuk Pb isotope compositions project from ca. 2900 Ma depleted mantle to  $\mu$ -values lower than the depleted mantle. A plausible end member scenario for the range of Pb isotope compositions is mixing between a ca. 2900 Ma depleted mantle and a low- $\mu$  source, isolated from the depleted mantle ca. 4200 Ma and evolving until ca. 2900 Ma with a maximum  $\mu \sim 6$  (Figure 4-11C). As the case with Fiskenæsset, this solution is non-unique and many end-member solutions could exist including solutions involving low- $\mu$  sources separated from the depleted mantle between ca. 4100 Ma and ca. 4300 Ma evolving until ca. 2900 Ma with a maximum  $\mu \sim 6$ .

The timing of source separation, or model ages, provided by the Pb isotope models can be used in conjunction with the Hf isotope data to constrain the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio for the low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end member for Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk. This allows us to further characterize the nature of the crustal end member that interacted with ca. 2900 Ma depleted mantle to generate the observed range of isotope compositions at each anorthosite complex. For Fiskensæset, a melt separated from the depleted mantle ca. 3700 Ma would evolve with a  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of  $\sim 0.028$  to produce the lowest  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  observed. Source separation ages from 3600 Ma to 3800 Ma result in variation in  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  from  $\sim 0.026$  to  $\sim 0.029$ . This range of  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  is characteristic of mafic crust (Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 2008; Pietranik et al., 2008). A melt separated from depleted mantle ca. 4200 Ma would evolve over time at a  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of  $\sim 0.0315$  to produce the low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end member identified at Nunataarsuk. Variations in the model age of the low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end member from ca. 4100 Ma to 4300 Ma result in a range of  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  from  $\sim 0.031$  to  $\sim 0.032$ . This range of  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  is also characteristic of mafic crust (Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 2008; Pietranik et al., 2008).

It is most likely that the range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values for both Nunataarsuk and Fiskensæset represent only a partial mixing array between depleted mantle and crustal components and the  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  composition of the lower end member plots below that of the lowest measured zircon for each anorthosite complex. The calculated  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for the measured end members would represent a maximum value for the respective end member source. Lower  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values would result in lower derived  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for the end member source,

leading to source compositions with higher silica contents. The minimum  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values for each anorthosite complex cannot be determined from the available data.

The calculated  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of the crustal end member is also sensitive to the composition of the depleted mantle and, therefore, the depleted mantle model chosen. A depleted mantle model based on the Hf isotope composition of modern MORB (Griffin et al., 2000; recalculated by Andersen et al., 2009) was used in this study to provide a basis of comparison between the two anorthosite complexes. When compared with available Hf isotope data through time (dominantly zircon analyses), this model tends to overestimate the Hf isotope composition for the Archean depleted mantle (Hawkesworth et al., 2010). This is in contrast to other depleted mantle models, which suggest a more gradual increase in the Hf isotopic composition for the depleted mantle during the Archean (e.g. Pietranik et al., 2009; Tolstikhin et al., 2006). In general, there are large uncertainties regarding the Hf isotopic composition and evolution of the Archean mantle largely due to limited reliable Hf isotopic compositions of Archean mantle derived material. If a depleted mantle model suggesting a more retarded Hf isotope evolution was used in this study the Hf isotope compositions for the Archean depleted mantle would all be lower than those predicted by the Griffin et al. (2000) model, which in turn would bias the derived  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios for the end member source of the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes to higher values.

#### **4.6.3 Preservation of the crustal end members?**

Mixing of depleted mantle and mafic crust sources can occur, in principle, within either the mantle (through subduction or delamination of the lithosphere) or crust

(through contamination of mantle-derived magmas by mafic crust). It is probable that the range of Hf and Pb isotope compositions observed at Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk were produced by crustal contamination for the following reasons.

The development of enriched and depleted compositional domains within the Archean mantle as the result of recycling mafic crust by subduction of oceanic lithosphere has been demonstrated by numerical models yet the “survival” time of these modeled heterogeneities in the upper mantle is limited by gravitational settling of the dense mafic components when converted to eclogite (Davies, 2006). The range of Nd, Hf and Pb isotope compositions of Archean mantle-derived rocks of a given age suggest that chemical heterogeneities existed within the Archean mantle at a given time (Bennett, 2003 and references therein; Kamber et al., 2003). Yet Sm-Nd isotope systematics indicate the lifespan of these heterogeneities within the hotter Archean mantle is ~ 100 million years, or ~ 1/10 the lifetime of chemical heterogeneities in the modern mantle (Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 1994). If the range of Hf and Pb isotope compositions at Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk were the result of the mixing between ~ 2900 Ma depleted mantle and recycled mafic crust, the crustal end member would have had to persist in the mantle sources region of the anorthosites for  $\geq 1$  billion years. The likely short lifespan of chemical heterogeneities in the Archean mantle makes this an unlikely scenario.

It has recently been suggested that the anorthositic parent magmas at Fiskenæsset were produced within a sub-arc mantle wedge, where harzburgitic, depleted mantle was metasomatized by high-Al (Rollinson et al., 2010), LREE, Sr and Ca-enriched (Polat et al., 2009, 2011) partial melts of subducting lithospheric crust. Slab melting in the Archean is thought to have produced tonalite-trondhjemite-granodiorite (TTG) magmas

(Defant and Drummond, 1990; Martin, 1993) with characteristically low  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios of  $< 0.01$  (Vervoort and Blichert-Toft, 1999, Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 1998). The calculated mantle extraction age of a melt with a  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio of  $< 0.01$  is  $< 3250$  Ma for both Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk. Thus, neither the bulk composition (TTG) nor  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio of slab melts can represent the mafic crustal component required by the Pb and Hf isotope data for Fiskenæsset. The data do not preclude a subduction model for Fiskenæsset but do require that the parent magmas of the anorthosites were contaminated by mafic crust after extraction from their mantle source regions.

If the mantle-derived parent magmas of Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk were contaminated by long-lived Eoarchean and Hadean mafic crust at  $\sim 2900$  Ma, is there any evidence that this ancient crust is still preserved today in south West Greenland? Three potential mafic end members have been identified: amphibolite country rock at Fiskenæsset; dioritic units of both the regional Eoarchean and Mesoarchean quartzofeldspathic gneisses; and mafic metavolcanics from within the quartzofeldspathic Eoarchean Itsaq Gneiss Complex (IGC). We show below that, based on current knowledge of the rocks of south West Greenland, the potential mafic crustal end members for Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk have yet to be identified.

The country rock into which the Nunataarsuk anorthosite was emplaced is unknown but evidence of an intrusive relationship between the Fiskenæsset anorthosite complex and amphibolite country rock has been documented at Fiskeaæsset; it has been interpreted to represent shallow-level emplacement of parent melt and crystal mush into oceanic crust (Escher and Myers, 1975; Myers, 1985). Geochemical investigations of the Fiskenæsset amphibolites have identified two distinct groups of basaltic magmas.

“MORB” (mid-ocean ridge basalt) and “tholeiitic” (Rivalenti, 1976; Weaver et al., 1982; Polat et al. 2009). Both types of basalts are thought to have been derived from a common parent magma and most workers have proposed petrogenetic links between the basalts and Fiskensæset anorthosite complex through fractional crystallization. Specifically, the MORBs have been interpreted as ocean floor basalt into which the anorthosite complex intruded, whereas the tholeiite has been inferred to be the parent magma of the anorthosite complex (Weaver et al., 1982; Polat et al., 2009). More recently, Polat et al. (2011) suggested that the anorthosites and basalts formed in the same tectonic setting but had different petrogenetic origins. In either model, the close (genetic and/or tectonic) relationship between Fiskensæset and both types of identified amphibolites suggests all units are similar in age, possibly within 20 Ma, which is thought to be the average age of Archean ocean crust (Hargraves, 1986). Therefore, the amphibolites identified at Fiskensæset would be too young to be the mafic crust contaminant of the anorthosite magma, which is modeled here to have been extracted from the mantle some 700 – 900 million years earlier.

Eoarchean crust in south West Greenland is dominated by orthogneisses of the Itsaq Gneiss Complex (~ 3620 – 3880 Ma; Nutman et al., 1996) derived from granites, granodiorites, diorites and tonalites (Bridgwater et al., 1976). The calculated average  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of 141 diorite bulk rock analyses compiled in GEOROC (<http://georoc.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/georoc>) is ~ 0.022, within the upper range of  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for dioritic to quartz-dioritic components of the Greenland Eoarchean (Amitsoq) gneisses (Pettingill and Patchett, 1981; Vervoort and Blichert-Toft, 1999). Assuming the diorite component of the Itsaq Gneiss Complex had a  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of 0.022, a mantle extraction age of ~ 3500



Ma is calculated for the low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  Fiskenæsset end member and ~ 3400 Ma for the low  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  Nunataarsuk end member. Both model ages are too young to consider the dioritic component of the Eoarchean gneisses as the potential crustal contaminant. Also, the probable Pb isotope compositions of the Eoarchean gneisses ca. 2900 Ma for a range of  $\mu$ -values ( $\mu = 0 - 50$ ), based on an estimated initial Pb isotope composition of the least radiogenic feldspar separated from a quartz-diorite gneiss on Akilia Island (Kamber and Moorbath, 1998), fall above the Fiskenæsset Pb isotope compositions and cannot be considered as a crustal end member for Fiskenæsset. There are also dioritic gneisses associated with the quartzo-feldspathic (Nuk) gneisses of south West Greenland but these rocks are much too young to be considered as crustal end members for either anorthosite complex (~ 2900 - 3000 Ma, Bridgwater et al., 1976; Taylor et al., 1980; Baadsgaard and McGregor, 1981).

A third candidate for the crustal end member is mafic metavolcanic rocks found within the Eoarchean Itsaq Gneiss complex. Eoarchean mafic metavolcanics are not known to be present in the Fiskenæsset or Nunataarsuk region, yet are geographically related and could have been more widespread than is known currently. The age of the mafic metavolcanics present at Isua is >3700 Ma (Frei et al., 2004), consistent with the age of the crustal end member modeled for Fiskenæsset but too young for Nunataaruk. Predicted Pb isotope compositions of the Isua metavolcanics ca. 2900 Ma for a range of  $\mu$ -values ( $\mu = 0 - 50$ ), based on the average initial Pb isotope compositions of the Isua metavolcanics (Frei et al., 2004) project well above the both the Fiskenæsset and

Nunataarsuk Pb isotope compositions and do not fit the Pb isotope characteristics of the crustal end member at either anorthosite complex.

#### 4.6.4 Implications for Mantle-Crust Evolution

Many depleted mantle evolution models extrapolate present-day mantle isotopic compositions, assumed to be representative of modern MORB, back to the formation of the Earth at  $\sim 4.6$  Ga. Ideally, pristine mantle-derived material with well-defined ages would be sampled to directly determine mantle compositions through time yet these samples are rare, especially for Archean-age material. Information about the isotopic composition of the Archean mantle is thus obtained from Archean mafic and ultramafic rocks instead. Unfortunately, primary compositions of these rocks are highly susceptible to metamorphism and secondary alteration and most lack well-defined ages.

The isotope composition of each anorthosite complex should reflect that of the mantle at the time of crystallization. Only one previous study has analyzed the Hf isotope compositions of zircon grains separated from an Archean anorthosite, the  $\sim 3350$  Ma Messina layered intrusion (Zeh et al., 2010). While the total range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values ( $\sim 5$   $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  units) in Messina is similar to that in Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk, the average Hf isotope composition of zircons from the Messina anorthosites is lower ( $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(3350 \text{ Ma}) = +1.4 \pm 1.8$ , and  $+0.1 \pm 1.9$ ) than the  $\sim 3350$  Ma depleted mantle ( $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}} \sim 4.6$ , Griffin et al., 2000). The parent magma of the Messina anorthosite is thus interpreted to include a slightly enriched component, perhaps through contamination by (TTG) crustal melts (Zeh et al., 2010).

The Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk depleted mantle end members for Hf isotopes fall within error (dashed lines extrapolated from the range of modern MORB, Figure 4-8) of the model Hf-isotope composition of ~ 2900 Ma a depleted mantle ( $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}} \sim 6.3$ ) of Griffin et al. (2000). The Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk Pb depleted mantle end members also fall close to the ~ 2900 Ma depleted mantle model of Kramers and Tolstikhin (1997) for Pb isotopes. These observations indicate that current models for the Hf- and Pb-evolution of the depleted mantle provide a reasonable approximation of the ~ 2900 Ma depleted mantle source for Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk. The Hf- and Pb-data also suggest that the depleted mantle source of Archean anorthosites is isotopically similar to the depleted mantle source of Archean tholeiites, requiring no special mantle source to explain the parental magmas of such plagioclase-rich rocks. The range of Fiskenæsset Pb isotope compositions extends slightly below the Kramers and Tolstikhin (1997) depleted mantle and is best-fit to a single-stage evolution line with a  $\mu \sim 7.5$  (Figure 4-11B). The difference between the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk Pb depleted mantle end members is < 2%, much less than the total range of Pb isotope compositions observed in the modern mantle (Stracke et al., 2003).

The nature, origin and fate of Earth's Hadean crust is a topic of much interest: whether this early crust was felsic (Armstrong, 1981; Bowring and Housh, 1995; Harrison et al., 2005, 2008; Blichert-Toft and Albarede, 2008) or mafic (Chase and Patchett, 1988; Kamber et al., 2003, 2005; O'Neil et al., 2008; Kemp et al., 2010) in composition is debated, yet most models agree that most of the Hadean crust was destroyed by ~ 3800 Ma. Interpretation of the Nunataarsuk Hf and Pb isotope data provides evidence for the

persistence of Hadean mafic crust until at ~ 2900 Ma. Reworking of Hadean crust into Archean magmas, despite preservation difficulties due to the hotter Hadean Earth, has been suggested for both the Slave Craton, Canada (Amelin et al., 1999, 2000; Pietranik et al., 2008; Iizuka et al., 2009), the Superior Craton (O'Neil et al., 2008), the Pilbara Craton (Tessalina et al., 2010) and for ~ 2.65 Ga monzogranites in the Narryer Gneiss Complex of the Yilgarn craton (Kemp et al., 2010). The Nunataarsuk Hf and Pb isotope data provide additional evidence for the survival of Hadean mafic crust for more than a billion years and suggests that this crust could still be preserved in the Nunataarsuk region today.

#### **4.7 CONCLUSION**

Earth's rock record dates back only to ~ 4.0 Ga (Bowring and Williams, 1999) although older detrital zircon grains have been identified, dating back to perhaps ~ 4.4 Ga (Wilde et al., 2001). The age of identified crustal sections is biased towards felsic crust due to the scarcity of zircon grains in mafic rocks. The possibility exists that there is a significant abundance of unrecognized early mafic crust preserved today that has yet to be identified. The integration of in situ Pb isotopes in plagioclase with Hf isotopes in zircon from the same igneous rock facilitates the identification of ancient crust. Using our new in situ approach, contamination of mantle-derived magma by ancient mafic crust is suggested for both the Fiskensæset and Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes of Greenland. The isotope data presented here suggest the survival of Hadean and Eoarchean crust until ~ 2900 Ma. There is potential that this old mafic crustal could be preserved at the surface within the Nunataarsuk and Fiskensæset regions today.

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Table 4. 2. 1-A,1CPMS U-Pb isotopic analyses of zircons from the Nainiananuk Amphibolite Complex.

[illegible]



ap12a06	N03-8-52-4903	MLA	12	23	0.51	14.8028	0.5286	0.8170	0.44	0.2897	0.0021	2893	34	2369	71	2832	17	98	
ap12a07	N03-8-52-4901	MLA	16	91	0.17	14.0938	0.4712	0.5333	0.8175	0.40	0.1913	0.0017	2756	32	2355	74	2754	15	100
ap12a08	N03-8-52-4904	MLA	26	49	0.54	13.5249	0.3952	0.5274	0.8132	0.43	0.1849	0.0018	2752	27	2350	86	2784	5	98
ap12a09	N03-8-52-4905	MLA	34	34	0.85	14.8752	0.4297	0.5354	0.8181	0.57	0.1849	0.0021	2807	29	2390	56	2822	18	99
ap12a10	N03-8-52-4902b	MLA	14	24	0.95	14.4407	0.4297	0.5354	0.8181	0.57	0.1908	0.0021	2792	28	2364	76	2784	18	99
ap12a11	N03-8-52-4902	MLA	55	163	0.34	14.6419	0.5685	0.5734	0.8110	0.61	0.1908	0.0015	2792	24	2356	46	2824	12	98
ap23a11	N03-8-52-12b	peaked	12	28	0.42	16.1758	0.2888	0.5623	0.8089	0.49	0.2127	0.0012	2887	15	2877	37	2936	9	98
ap23a12	N03-8-52-12b	peaked	14	34	0.42	16.2588	0.2102	0.5655	0.8054	0.49	0.2114	0.0023	2902	13	2889	31	2916	18	99
ap23a13	N03-8-52-09a	peaked	12	26	0.45	16.1265	0.2235	0.5444	0.8056	0.50	0.2074	0.0012	2884	13	2843	32	2906	10	99
ap23a19	N03-8-52-02a	peaked	28	31	0.40	14.4093	0.2153	0.5399	0.8079	0.49	0.1994	0.0010	2781	14	2775	35	2908	8	100
ap23a20	N03-8-52-02a	peaked	28	31	0.40	14.4093	0.2153	0.5399	0.8079	0.49	0.1994	0.0010	2781	14	2775	35	2908	8	100
ap23a21	N03-8-52-02a	peaked	28	31	0.40	14.4093	0.2153	0.5399	0.8079	0.49	0.1994	0.0010	2781	14	2775	35	2908	8	100
ap23a22	N03-8-52-02a	peaked	28	31	0.40	14.4093	0.2153	0.5399	0.8079	0.49	0.1994	0.0010	2781	14	2775	35	2908	8	100
ap23a27	N03-8-52-04d	peaked	36	40	0.41	15.8987	0.2538	0.5571	0.8087	0.49	0.2106	0.0011	2871	15	2855	36	2911	8	98
ap23a28	N03-8-52-13b	peaked	23	59	0.38	16.2796	0.1892	0.5446	0.8075	0.57	0.2111	0.0012	2892	11	2886	31	2914	9	99
ap23a29	N03-8-52-13b	peaked	29	37	0.55	14.6669	0.1898	0.5489	0.8065	0.46	0.2091	0.0009	2793	12	2783	27	2827	8	98
ap23a31	N03-8-52-16	peaked	56	255	0.22	14.6664	0.1908	0.5489	0.8064	0.45	0.2012	0.0007	2794	12	2786	27	2826	6	98
ap23a35	N03-8-52-19b	peaked	44	71	0.62	15.7562	0.2573	0.5147	0.8080	0.48	0.2105	0.0011	2860	14	2845	33	2909	8	98
ap23a36	N03-8-52-19b	peaked	44	71	0.62	15.7562	0.2573	0.5147	0.8080	0.48	0.2105	0.0011	2860	14	2845	33	2909	8	98
ap23a37	N03-8-52-19b	peaked	38	49	0.53	16.2652	0.1754	0.5468	0.8077	0.58	0.2126	0.0013	2884	12	2891	32	2911	10	99

Note.

<sup>1</sup> The name is the file ID of the raw data file for each individual and ion.

<sup>2</sup> "Mount" identifies whether the recent grain was hand-picked or located within an epoxy grain mount by ALSCM software after being processed by traditional mineral separation techniques.

<sup>3</sup> "Isotoped" using the within-run average count rates of <sup>91</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr and the Th and U concentrations (Wiedenbeck et al. 1999).

<sup>4</sup> "Measured" isotope ratios determined using the LAMDAE data reduction program for LA-MC-PGBs (Foster et al. 2006).

<sup>5</sup> "Correlation coefficient" is the Pearson correlation coefficient between the measured and the expected isotope ratios for each grain, calculated at the time of the ion analysis for each grain.

<sup>6</sup> "1-2P" is the probability (%) of a measure of 1-2P (Brenneck).







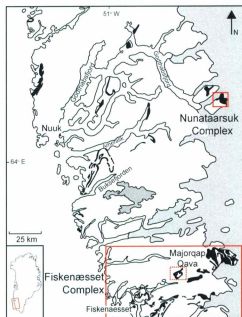


Figure 4.1: General map of south West Greenland with Archean anorthosite complexes in black. Thick boxes surround the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk regions. The Fiskenæsset samples were all from the Majorqap qava area, dashed box (modified from Owens and Dymek, 1997).

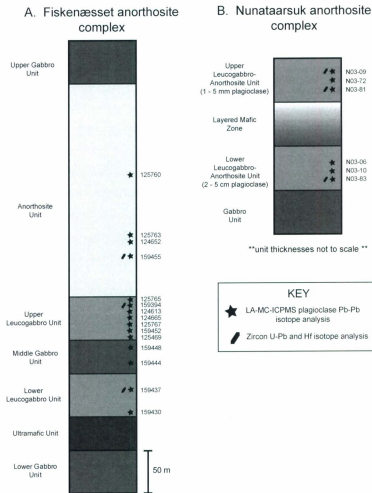


Figure 4-2: Simplified stratigraphy of the Fiskenæsset (after Myers, 1985) and Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes with relative stratigraphic positions of samples discussed.

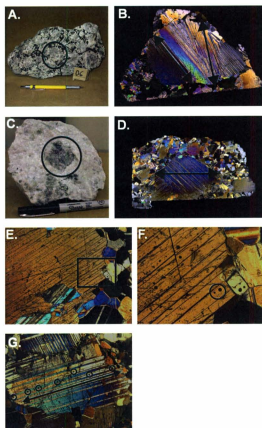


Figure 4-3: Representative leucogabbro (A, B) and anorthosite (C,D) samples. B and D are representative of the areas circled in A and C (images B and D produced using a flat-bed scanner in 'film' mode and two pieces of polarizing film). Arrows in B and D are typical transects across a single plagioclase megacryst used for in-situ analyses. The length of each transect shown is ~ 1 cm. E, F and G are transmitted optical microscope images (cross-polarized light) of plagioclase megacrysts and the surrounding recrystallized matrix dominated by plagioclase. F is an enlargement of the area within the box in E. Within the circled area in F, the larger laser ablation pits are 99  $\mu\text{m}$  (LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope analysis) and adjacent smaller laser ablation pits are 49  $\mu\text{m}$  (LA-ICPMS trace element analysis). Trails of tiny amphibole inclusions are visible on the left-hand side of F (center of image). G is representative of a typical transect (shown by the arrow, ~ 0.7 cm) across a plagioclase megacryst. Each laser ablation pit is circled (99  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter).

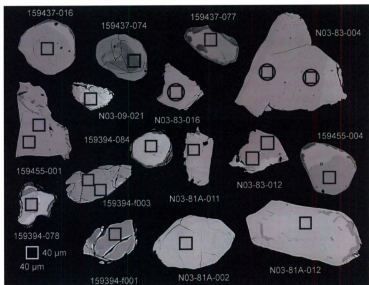


Figure 4-4: Back-scattered electron images of representative zircon crystals from Fiskenæsset (grains labeled 159xxx-xxx) and Nunataarsuk (grains labeled N03-xx-xxx) leucogabbro and anorthosite samples analyzed. Squares mark the U-Pb analysis locations. A Hf isotope analysis was made directly over each of the U-Pb square rasters using a circular laser beam. To illustrate, this is shown schematically for grains N03-83-004 and N03-83-016. The two zircon grains that give the oldest U-Pb ages ( $2936 \pm 13$  Ma) for Fiskenæsset are 159394-f001 and 159394-f003. Three (N03-83-004, N03-012, N03-83-016) of the four oldest grains ( $2914 \pm 6.9$  Ma from Nunataarsuk) are also shown.



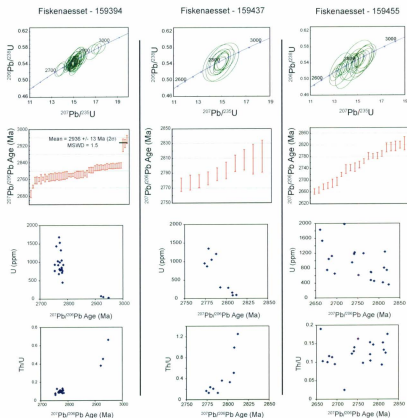


Figure 4-5: Results of in-situ LA-ICPMS U-Pb zircon analysis from Fiskenaesset anorthosite complex. Error ellipses on the concordia diagrams are 1-sigma. Error bars on the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{Pb}$  weighted mean plots are 2-sigma.

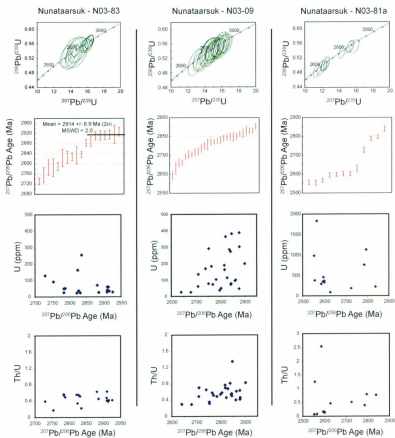


Figure 4-6: Results of in-situ LA-ICPMS U-Pb zircon analysis from Nunataarsuk anorthosite complex. Error ellipses on the concordia diagrams are 1-sigma. Error bars on the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  weighted mean plots are 2-sigma.

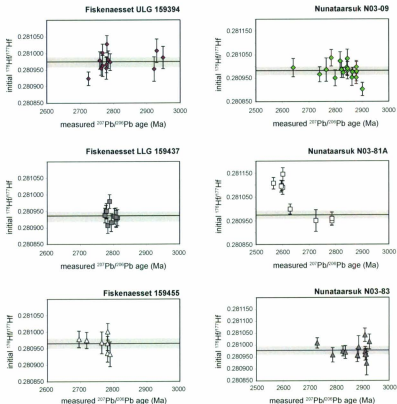


Figure 4-7: Initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  vs. measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age from Fiskenaesset and Nunataarsuk zircon grains analyzed. Five analyses of four zircon grains from sample N03-81A have distinctly higher initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  than other grains analyzed. These grains also have younger  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ages (2566 Ma to 2601 Ma) than other zircons found within this sample and represent new zircon growth, rather than zircon dissolution - homogenization- re-precipitation within the Nunataarsuk system. The solid black horizontal line in each plot is the average initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for the represented sample. The gray shaded region within each plot represents the total range of initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for the three natural zircon standards analyzed during this study (total range = 0.000036).

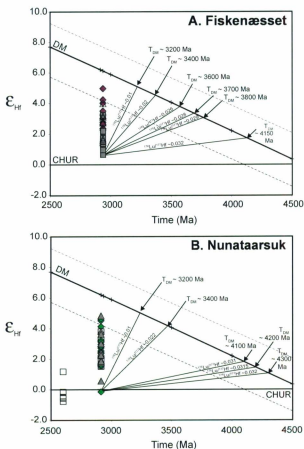
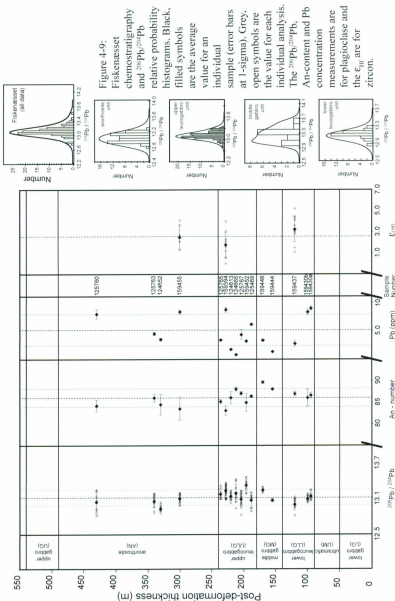
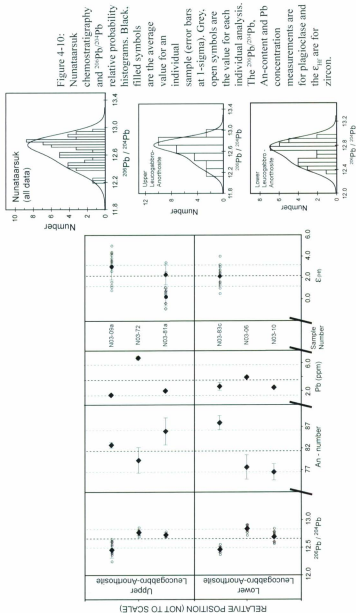


Figure 4-8: Hf isotope evolution plots for all Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk zircon grains analyzed. Hf depleted mantle model ages ( $T_{\text{DM}}$ ) are calculated for the lower  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  end member for both Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk using a range of  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios representative of mafic and felsic crust. The depleted mantle evolution curve (solid line) was calculated using the modern MORB values of Griffin et al. (2000) recalculated by Andersen et al. (2009), the decay constant of Soderlund et al. (2004) and the CHUR parameters of Bouvier et al. (2008). Dashed lines represent most of the range of Hf isotope compositions of modern MORB extrapolated back to the Archean (Chauvel and Blichert-Toft, 2001 and references therein).





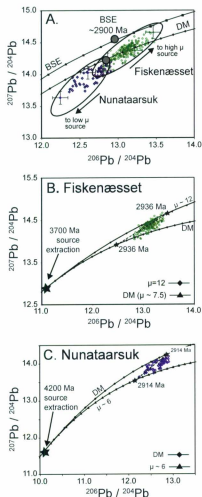


Figure 4-11: (A)  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for Fiskenæsset (circles) and Nunataarsuk (diamonds). Representative error bars are shown, and are applicable to all of the LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope analyses. Also shown are the model depleted mantle (DM; Kramers and Tolstikhin, 1997) and model bulk silicate Earth (BSE; Galer and Goldstein, 1996) evolution lines. The DM and BSE Pb isotope compositions at 2900 Ma are marked with filled grey circles. (B) Fiskenæsset Pb isotope evolution model. Pb isotope compositions range between depleted mantle and a high  $\mu$  source, extracted from the depleted mantle at 3700 Ma. (C) Nunataarsuk Pb isotope evolution model. Pb isotope compositions range between depleted mantle ( $\sim 2900$  Ma) and a low  $\mu$  source, extracted from the depleted mantle at  $\sim 4200$  Ma.

## **Supplemental File S4-1: Analytical Methods for Plagioclase Analysis**

### **S4-1.1 Major and Trace Element Analysis**

The chemical composition of each plagioclase megacryst was analyzed for major elements by electron probe microanalysis (EPMA) and for trace elements by laser ablation-inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICPMS). The EPMA was carried out using the JEOL JXA-733 microprobe at the University of New Brunswick with a 5  $\mu\text{m}$  electron beam, an accelerating voltage of 15 kV and beam current of 30 nA. The  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CaO}$ ,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{BaO}$  and Cl composition were determined for multiple analysis points along a traverse across each plagioclase megacryst (~ 750 – 1000  $\mu\text{m}$  spacing between points).

LA-ICPMS trace element analysis (to determine total Pb concentration) was done at Memorial University of Newfoundland using a Thermo-Scientific ELEMENT XR magnetic sector, single-collector ICPMS coupled to a Lambda Physik Compex Pro 110 ArF excimer GeoLas laser ablation system operating at a wavelength of 193nm and a pulse width of 20 ns. A 40- $\mu\text{m}$  laser beam was focused as closely as possible to the EPMA analysis site making sure to avoid any cracks or inclusions visible on the surface of the plagioclase crystal. The laser beam operated at an energy density of 3  $\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$  and a repetition rate of 10 Hz. Measurements were performed on the ELEMENT-XR using a combination of electrical and magnetic scan modes. Each pass was ~ 1.5 sec for the measurement of 27 major and trace elements with 60 passes per individual analysis. Each analysis consisted of ~ 30 seconds of gas background measurement followed by ~ 90 sec of laser ablation. Raw data was converted to concentrations with LAMTRACE (Jackson,



2008) using NIST 612 as the external calibration material. Ca-concentration determined by EPMA was used as the internal standard to correct for differences in ablation yield and potential matrix effects between the plagioclase unknowns and NIST 612.

#### **S4.1.2 LA-MC-ICPMS Pb Isotopes**

The analytical method followed that described in detail by Souders and Sylvester (2008a, b). All data were acquired using a Thermo Scientific NEPTUNE multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (MC-ICPMS). The NEPTUNE at MUN is also equipped with 9 Faraday cups and 8 multiple ion counter (Channeltron) devices. Concurrent, static measurements of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  were made in 5 ion counters mounted onto the low mass (L4) Faraday cup.  $^{235}\text{U}$  was measured in an ion counter attached to a high mass (L6) Faraday cup, to monitor for lead isotope ratios that may have been modified by in-growth of radiogenic lead in the samples by the decay of U after crystallization. The ion counters attached to L4 are in fixed positions, spaced to collect the four lead and  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  isotopes.  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  was measured in order to correct for the isobaric interference of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . The mercury is almost exclusively derived from the carrier gases rather than from the samples themselves. The  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  of the gas background was determined from measurements of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  made with the laser off prior to each analysis, assuming that the isotopic composition of lead in the gas is given by the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for modern lead ( $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 38.63 \pm 0.98$ , Stacey and Kramers, 1975). Many analyses over more than 2 years in our laboratory suggests that this method gives superior results compared to trying to determine the mass bias on the  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  ratio through measurements of Hg isotopic ratios directly (Souders and

Sylvester 2008a, 2008b, 2010).

The same GeoLas laser ablation system previously described was linked to the NEPTUNE MC-ICPMS for in situ analyses. Ablation conditions were  $3 \text{ J/cm}^2$  and 10 Hz with a spot size ranging from 49 to 109  $\mu\text{m}$  depending on the lead concentration of the megacryst of interest and the mineral surface area available free of cracks or inclusions. Laser spots for lead isotope analysis were placed directly next to, as close to the EPMA and LA-ICPMS trace element analysis location as possible. Count rates never exceeded  $\sim 300,000$  cps to limit potential analytical difficulties related to pulse pile-up, dead-time signal loss and accelerated detector drift. Samples were ablated in helium gas, which reduces sample re-deposition while increasing sensitivity for 193 nm laser ablation. Mercury was filtered from the He and Ar gases using gold-coated glass wool placed on the helium gas line feeding the ablation cell, and by an activated charcoal filter in the argon gas line.

The duration of each standard and unknown analysis was  $\sim 150$  sec using a 0.18 sec or 1 sec integration time, depending on the analytical session. The first 30 seconds of the measurement were with the laser off, measuring the background count rates followed by 60 seconds of laser ablation, and then 60 seconds of recorded wash out. The NEPTUNE software was used for both ion counter yield and dark noise corrections prior to downloading the measured mass intensities into 'Pb-Tool', an in-house macro-based excel spreadsheet modified from 'LAM-Tool' (Kosler et al., 2008). Gas background subtraction,  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  interference correction on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , ablation interval

selection and lead isotope ratio calculations are all performed within Pb-Tool.

Unlike other radiogenic isotope systems of geologic interest (*e.g.* Sm-Nd, Lu-Hf, Rb-Sr), the lead isotope system lacks an invariant ratio to use for internal mass bias corrections. Instead, a standard – sample – standard bracketing approach was used to correct for instrumental mass bias and detector drift (Albarede et al., 2004). Three standards followed by three unknowns, followed by three standards are run sequentially. USGS BCR2-G, a natural reference glass of basalt composition, was used as the external calibration standard for all analyses because of its well-defined lead isotope ratio and chemical composition (GeoREM: <http://georem.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/>), a lead concentration low enough to measure with the ion counters without saturating the detectors yet high enough for good counting statistics on isotopes of interest and it has a similar lead concentration to unknowns. It has been demonstrated that matrix matching is not a necessity for lead isotope ratio measurements of lead-poor ( $< 40$  ppm total Pb) feldspars, and accuracies within 0.4 % of preferred values and external precisions of better than 0.6 % (RSD,  $1 \sigma$ ) can be attained using BCR2-G as an external calibration material (Souders and Sylvester, 2010). The calculated lead isotope ratios for every three standards are averaged together and the lead isotope ratios of each unknown analysis are determined by linear interpolation of the average standard ratios run before and after every group of three unknowns. Reported uncertainties for each unknown is based on the standard error of the mean of each unknown isotope ratio from the selected ablation interval and the standard error of the y-estimate of the linear regression line through the lead isotope ratios of the standards, MPI-DING T1-G ( $11.6 \pm 1.6$  ppm total Pb) and MPI-

DING ATHO-G ( $5.67 \pm 0.62$  ppm total Pb), standard reference materials of natural quartz diorite (T1-G) and rhyolite (ATHO-G) compositions, with well-characterized lead isotope ratios and chemical compositions (Jochum et al., 2000; Jochum et al., 2005) and similar lead concentrations to unknowns were run as unknowns for quality control purposes. The results of these analyses are listed in Table S4-I.1.

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Table S4-1.1: LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope ratios for MPI-DING-ATHO-G and MPI-DING-T1-G

File	STD	Spot size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$				$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$				$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$			
			SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)	SE (1s)
ju18a04	ATHO-G	49	18.360	0.150	15.431	0.143	37.865	0.333	0.841	0.003	2.063	0.005		
ju18a05	ATHO-G	49	18.402	0.139	15.553	0.132	37.999	0.310	0.842	0.002	2.067	0.004		
ju18a18	ATHO-G	59	18.366	0.137	15.384	0.127	37.964	0.303	0.842	0.002	2.076	0.004		
ju18a30	ATHO-G	59	18.413	0.124	15.514	0.121	38.173	0.278	0.844	0.002	2.076	0.004		
ju18a42	ATHO-G	59	18.442	0.129	15.553	0.128	38.110	0.296	0.844	0.002	2.070	0.004		
ju18a54	ATHO-G	59	18.326	0.128	15.352	0.122	37.702	0.285	0.839	0.002	2.069	0.004		
ju18a66	ATHO-G	59	18.387	0.156	15.347	0.144	37.951	0.347	0.843	0.003	2.073	0.005		
ju19b04	ATHO-G	69	18.289	0.148	15.523	0.129	37.831	0.322	0.845	0.003	2.067	0.005		
ju19b05	ATHO-G	69	18.367	0.103	15.353	0.098	37.886	0.239	0.840	0.002	2.069	0.004		
ju19b22	ATHO-G	69	18.395	0.112	15.546	0.100	38.259	0.252	0.842	0.002	2.072	0.005		
ju19b84	ATHO-G	69	18.425	0.110	15.483	0.102	38.105	0.250	0.843	0.002	2.066	0.004		
ju19a04	ATHO-G	59	18.448	0.120	15.549	0.101	38.214	0.267	0.841	0.002	2.070	0.004		
ju19a05	ATHO-G	59	18.487	0.119	15.605	0.095	38.213	0.265	0.842	0.002	2.071	0.005		
ju19a22	ATHO-G	59	18.337	0.134	15.447	0.109	37.841	0.296	0.843	0.002	2.066	0.005		
ju19a40	ATHO-G	59	18.349	0.132	15.450	0.107	38.014	0.291	0.842	0.002	2.071	0.005		
ju19a58	ATHO-G	59	18.329	0.148	15.400	0.116	37.674	0.300	0.838	0.002	2.060	0.005		
ju19a76	ATHO-G	59	18.446	0.131	15.463	0.111	38.019	0.294	0.841	0.002	2.069	0.005		
ju20a04	ATHO-G	69	18.426	0.113	15.542	0.096	38.275	0.258	0.844	0.002	2.071	0.004		
ju20a05	ATHO-G	69	18.325	0.116	15.432	0.099	37.942	0.263	0.842	0.002	2.071	0.003		
ju20a22	ATHO-G	69	18.331	0.118	15.386	0.103	37.966	0.279	0.841	0.002	2.068	0.004		
ju20a40	ATHO-G	69	18.348	0.130	15.428	0.113	37.762	0.290	0.843	0.002	2.066	0.004		
ju20a54	ATHO-G	69	18.248	0.118	15.406	0.102	37.889	0.268	0.843	0.002	2.071	0.004		
ju22a04	ATHO-G	59	18.387	0.095	15.414	0.084	37.986	0.198	0.840	0.002	2.071	0.004		
ju22a05	ATHO-G	59	18.240	0.093	15.300	0.082	37.754	0.189	0.844	0.002	2.076	0.004		
ju22a22	ATHO-G	59	18.374	0.102	15.410	0.090	38.002	0.207	0.842	0.002	2.070	0.004		
ju22a36	ATHO-G	59	18.369	0.102	15.479	0.090	37.925	0.203	0.840	0.002	2.067	0.004		
ju25a04	ATHO-G	69	18.365	0.128	15.531	0.101	38.028	0.275	0.844	0.002	2.073	0.003		
ju25a05	ATHO-G	69	18.446	0.131	15.528	0.102	38.284	0.281	0.844	0.002	2.078	0.003		
ju25a22	ATHO-G	69	18.465	0.130	15.559	0.103	38.404	0.280	0.843	0.002	2.074	0.003		
ju25a40	ATHO-G	69	18.387	0.155	15.411	0.118	38.097	0.333	0.840	0.002	2.076	0.004		
ju25a48	ATHO-G	69	18.359	0.141	15.557	0.113	38.114	0.299	0.845	0.002	2.074	0.004		
ju27a05	ATHO-G	49	18.348	0.165	15.478	0.131	37.981	0.344	0.844	0.004	2.068	0.011		
ju27a40	ATHO-G	49	18.324	0.239	15.536	0.192	37.794	0.469	0.842	0.005	2.061	0.011		
no10a10	ATHO-G	49	18.401	0.075	15.498	0.087	37.898	0.203	0.844	0.003	2.065	0.004		
no10a11	ATHO-G	49	18.368	0.063	15.364	0.071	37.906	0.173	0.838	0.003	2.063	0.003		
no10a28	ATHO-G	49	18.303	0.071	15.482	0.080	37.931	0.182	0.846	0.003	2.074	0.003		
no10b04	ATHO-G	49	18.384	0.111	15.487	0.110	37.923	0.287	0.843	0.002	2.069	0.004		
no10b05	ATHO-G	49	18.373	0.111	15.417	0.111	37.796	0.285	0.843	0.002	2.060	0.004		
no10b18	ATHO-G	49	18.432	0.114	15.571	0.113	37.941	0.276	0.845	0.002	2.066	0.004		
no10b24	ATHO-G	49	18.374	0.114	15.475	0.110	37.963	0.294	0.841	0.001	2.064	0.004		
no10b28	ATHO-G	49	18.445	0.116	15.546	0.110	38.213	0.289	0.841	0.002	2.073	0.004		
no11a04	ATHO-G	69	18.387	0.085	15.485	0.072	38.108	0.196	0.844	0.002	2.076	0.004		
no11a05	ATHO-G	69	18.378	0.086	15.565	0.071	38.194	0.201	0.845	0.001	2.080	0.004		
no11a22	ATHO-G	69	18.356	0.091	15.500	0.074	38.170	0.203	0.842	0.001	2.077	0.004		
no11a60	ATHO-G	69	18.416	0.089	15.491	0.074	38.169	0.203	0.842	0.002	2.075	0.005		
no15b06	ATHO-G	69	18.398	0.083	15.412	0.066	37.909	0.154	0.841	0.002	2.065	0.003		
no15b22	ATHO-G	69	18.283	0.089	15.388	0.075	37.726	0.174	0.842	0.002	2.066	0.003		
no15b40	ATHO-G	69	18.450	0.085	15.500	0.070	38.110	0.182	0.843	0.002	2.068	0.003		
no15b58	ATHO-G	69	18.406	0.102	15.464	0.081	37.916	0.187	0.840	0.002	2.065	0.004		
no15e04	ATHO-G	69	18.412	0.083	15.457	0.061	37.968	0.149	0.841	0.001	2.064	0.003		
no15e22	ATHO-G	69	18.293	0.084	15.433	0.062	37.691	0.140	0.842	0.001	2.065	0.003		

no15c40	ATHO-G	69	18.375	0.080	15.455	0.058	37.958	0.142	0.842	0.001	2.070	0.002
no15c52	ATHO-G	69	18.330	0.078	15.467	0.055	37.916	0.142	0.842	0.001	2.065	0.003
no15c60	ATHO-G	69	18.358	0.089	15.467	0.069	37.876	0.144	0.841	0.001	2.067	0.003
mean			18.375		15.469		37.987		0.842		2.069	
SD (1s)			0.053		0.068		0.166		0.002		0.005	
% RSD (1s)			0.29%		0.44%		0.44%		0.20%		0.23%	
preferred <sup>1</sup>			<b>18.383</b>	<b>0.004</b>	<b>15.480</b>	<b>0.004</b>	<b>38.111</b>	<b>0.003</b>	<b>0.84204</b>	<b>0.0002</b>	<b>2.073</b>	<b>0.0006</b>
ju06d04	TIG	40	18.725	0.119	15.676	0.111	38.876	0.255	0.837	0.002	2.077	0.004
ju06d22	TIG	40	18.693	0.115	15.684	0.110	38.930	0.249	0.841	0.001	2.082	0.004
ju06c04	TIG	40	18.762	0.139	15.724	0.110	39.066	0.256	0.838	0.002	2.082	0.003
ju06b04	TIG	40	18.702	0.103	15.615	0.107	38.835	0.331	0.835	0.002	2.080	0.004
ju06b22	TIG	40	18.652	0.118	15.609	0.120	38.897	0.343	0.842	0.002	2.083	0.004
ju06b36	TIG	40	18.675	0.124	15.671	0.115	38.823	0.345	0.839	0.002	2.088	0.004
ju06b46	TIG	40	18.689	0.124	15.685	0.124	39.083	0.363	0.838	0.002	2.085	0.004
ju06a04	TIG	40	18.720	0.079	15.688	0.108	38.823	0.293	0.838	0.003	2.076	0.011
ju06a22	TIG	69	18.759	0.084	15.723	0.104	39.128	0.288	0.837	0.003	2.084	0.011
ju06a54	TIG	69	18.634	0.079	15.627	0.106	38.795	0.286	0.840	0.003	2.084	0.011
ju03b04	TIG	40	18.772	0.121	15.762	0.089	39.077	0.252	0.837	0.001	2.078	0.003
ju03b22	TIG	40	18.701	0.153	15.647	0.106	39.099	0.289	0.837	0.001	2.080	0.003
ju03b40	TIG	40	18.743	0.136	15.712	0.101	39.036	0.265	0.839	0.001	2.084	0.003
ju03c04	TIG	40	18.776	0.181	15.687	0.106	38.845	0.310	0.839	0.001	2.089	0.003
ju03c18	TIG	40	18.727	0.155	15.621	0.097	39.043	0.299	0.833	0.001	2.079	0.003
jc28a04	TIG	40	18.710	0.111	15.514	0.089	38.507	0.249	0.833	0.004	2.067	0.008
jc28a22	TIG	40	18.670	0.128	15.508	0.099	38.752	0.261	0.836	0.004	2.084	0.008
jc28a36	TIG	40	18.734	0.131	15.745	0.111	38.959	0.289	0.839	0.004	2.074	0.008
ju04d04	TIG	40	18.720	0.059	15.568	0.072	38.680	0.172	0.835	0.001	2.075	0.003
mean			18.714		15.656		38.908		0.837		2.081	
SD (1s)			0.040		0.071		0.163		0.002		0.005	
% RSD (1s)			0.21%		0.45%		0.42%		0.28%		0.25%	
preferred <sup>1</sup>			<b>18.728</b>	<b>0.004</b>	<b>15.679</b>	<b>0.004</b>	<b>38.973</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>0.83724</b>	<b>0.0001</b>	<b>2.081</b>	<b>0.0005</b>

<sup>1</sup> preferred values from Jochem et al. (2005)

## **Supplemental File S4-2: Analytical Methods for Zircon Analysis**

### **S4-2.1 U-Pb Zircon Geochronology by LA-ICPMS**

U-Pb isotopic data were acquired using the same Thermo-Scientific ELEMENT XR magnetic sector, single-collector ICPMS and Lambda Physik ComPex Pro 110 ArF GeoLas laser ablation system described in Supplemental File S4-1. During laser ablation, a stationary 10  $\mu\text{m}$  laser beam with an energy density of  $\sim 5 \text{ J/cm}^2$  at a repetition rate of 10 Hz is scanned across the sample surface by moving the sample stage at a velocity of 10  $\mu\text{m/sec}$  creating a 40 x 40  $\mu\text{m}$  box. A scanning method is employed to reduce the depth of ablation and supply a more constant mass-load to the ICP, reducing U-Pb fractionation while providing stable signals at high spatial resolution long enough to produce precise and accurate U-Pb zircon ages (Kosler, 2008a and references therein). The sample aerosol is transported from the sample cell to the ICP using a He-carrier gas to reduce sample redeposition within the ablation cell, improving sample transport efficiency and resulting in more stable time-resolved signals.

During data acquisition,  $^{202,204}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{206,207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$  and  $^{238}\text{U}$  isotopes from the zircon and gas are measured along with a mixed  $^{203}\text{Tl}$ ,  $^{205}\text{Tl}$ ,  $^{209}\text{Bi}$ ,  $^{233}\text{U}$ ,  $^{237}\text{Np}$  internal standard tracer solution, simultaneously nebulized throughout each analysis. Aspiration of the tracer solution allow for matrix-independent, real-time instrumental mass bias correction of the U/Pb and Pb/Pb ratios using the known isotopic composition of the tracer solution (Kosler and Sylvester, 2003). Data acquisition for each analysis is 3 minutes, with the first  $\sim 30$  seconds used to measure the gas background and tracer solution followed by  $\sim 150$  sec of laser ablation. Measurements are carried out in peak-



jumping mode with one point measured per peak.

Raw data are dead-time corrected and reduced off-line using the LAMDATE macro-based spreadsheet program (Kosler et al., 2008b). The  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  ratios were calculated and background corrected for each analysis. An instrumental mass bias correction was made using the measured ratios of the tracer solution (Kosler et al. 2002; Kosler and Sylvester, 2003). Laser-induced U-Pb fractionation was corrected using the intercept method of Sylvester and Ghaderi (1997). Measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios were not intercept corrected because Pb/Pb isotope ratios are not fractionated by laser ablation. Instead the average ratio for the ablation interval selected was used for age calculation. An analysis was rejected from the final data set if the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio calculated from the intercept method  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$  ratios did not fall within 1-sigma uncertainty of the average measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio. Analyses more than 2% discordant were also rejected. These conservative filters were used to eliminate any analyses that may not have been properly corrected for U-Pb fractionation and to determine the best possible age. No common Pb correction was applied to any data. An analysis was rejected when  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  was detected above background.

In order to monitor the efficiency of the instrumental mass bias correction and the laser-induced fractionation correction, standard reference materials 91500 zircon ( $1065 \pm 3$  Ma; Wiedenback et al., 1995) and Plesovice zircon ( $337 \pm 0.37$  Ma; Slama et al., 2008) were each analyzed between every ~ 8 unknowns during the analytical session. These standard measurements also monitor the accuracy and reproducibility of U-Pb analyses. Age determinations were calculated using the decay constants of Jaffey et al., (1971) and

the present day  $^{238}\text{U}/^{235}\text{U}$  ratios of 137.88. Final ages and Concordia diagrams were produced using the Isoplot/Ex macro (Ludwig, 2003). The weighted mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age for all analyses of 91500 is  $1068 \pm 8$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ , MSWD = 0.94;  $n = 32$ ) and for Plesovice is  $337 \pm 9$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ , MSWD = 0.37;  $n = 19$ ) over the course of all the U-Pb analytical sessions (Table S4-2.1).

#### **S4-2.2 Zircon Lu-Hf analysis by LA-MC-ICPMS**

Hf isotopic compositions of zircon grains were determined by LA-MC-ICPMS using the same Thermo-Scientific NEPTUNE MC-ICPMS coupled to the same laser system described in Supplemental Files S4-1 and S4-2. A 49  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spot was focused on each zircon grain directly on top of the U-Pb box raster, firing at a frequency of 10 Hz with an energy density of 5 J/cm<sup>2</sup> for 600 pulses.  $^{171}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{173}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{174}(\text{Hf} + \text{Yb})$ ,  $^{175}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{176}(\text{Hf} + \text{Yb} + \text{Lu})$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{178}\text{Hf}$  and  $^{179}\text{Hf}$  were all measured simultaneously in 8 Faraday collectors. Each analysis consists of 30 seconds of gas background measurement, followed by 60 seconds of laser ablation and ending with 30 seconds of monitoring wash out. Isotope measurements were acquired using a 1 second on-peak integration time. Raw data are processed off-line using Hf-Tool, an in-house macro-based spreadsheet modified from LAMTOOL (Kosler et al., 2008b). The spreadsheet allows the user to select background and ablation intervals to be used in the final ratio calculations based on plots of both signal intensity vs. time and isotope ratio vs. time.

Mass bias factors ( $B$ ) for Yb and Hf were calculated using the exponential law and the invariant  $^{173}\text{Yb}/^{171}\text{Yb}$  ratio of 1.13014 (Segal et al., 2003) and the  $^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio of 0.732500 (Patchett et al., 1981). The  $B(\text{Yb})$  is used as an approximation for  $B(\text{Lu})$  since

the 2 isotopes are chemically similar and only 2 Lu isotopes are found in nature. In order to determine the  $^{176}\text{Hf}$  signal intensity the  $^{176}\text{Yb}$  and  $^{176}\text{Lu}$  interferences on the 176-mass must be removed. Interference-free  $^{173}\text{Yb}$  and  $^{175}\text{Lu}$  were measured and the  $^{176}\text{Yb}$  and  $^{176}\text{Lu}$  contributions to the 176-mass were calculated using the  $^{176}\text{Yb}/^{173}\text{Yb}$  ratio of 0.7938 (Segal et al., 2003) and the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{175}\text{Lu}$  ratio of 0.2656 (Chu et al., 2002). The  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ,  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ,  $^{176}\text{Yb}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ,  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  and  $^{178}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios are calculated and corrected for instrumental mass bias using  $\beta(\text{Hf})$ . No normalization correction to a solution value was applied to the data. The invariant  $^{178}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio provides a quality-control monitor for the accuracy of the Hf mass bias correction. The mean  $^{178}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio for all 91500 and PL reference zircons analyzed during the course of this study is  $1.467245 \pm 0.000052$  (2SD,  $n = 60$ ), which is within the uncertainty of the  $^{178}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios reported by Thirlwall and Ancziewicz (2004).

Reference zircons PL and 91500 were analyzed after every eight unknowns to evaluate the accuracy and reproducibility of our LA-MC-ICPMS Lu-Hf isotope analyses. Identical laser ablation conditions were used for both unknown zircon grains and reference zircon crystals. The average  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for Plesovice zircon analyzed during this study is  $0.282480 \pm 19$  (2SD,  $n = 24$ ) compared to the reference value of  $0.282482 \pm 0.000013$  (2SD) (Slama et al., 2008). The average  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio for R33 zircon is  $0.282761 \pm 15$  (2SD,  $n = 14$ ) compared to the literature value of  $0.282767 \pm 18$  (Vervoort, 2010). The average  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio for the 91500 zircon is  $0.282306 \pm 0.000015$  (2SD,  $n = 16$ ) compared to the literature value of  $0.282308 \pm 0.000006$  (2SD; Blichert-Toft, 2008) (Table S4-2.2).

For unknown zircon grains, the initial  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios were calculated using the

measured  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ , the  $^{176}\text{Lu}$  decay constant,  $\lambda = 1.867 \times 10^{-11}/\text{yr}$ , of Söderlund et al. (2004) and the LA-ICPMS  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  zircon age for each individual grain. Epsilon Hf values are calculated using the present-day CHUR  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  and  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  values of 0.282785 and 0.0336, respectively (Bouvier et al., 2008). The depleted mantle model of Griffin et al. (2000), modified to the  $^{176}\text{Lu}$  decay constant of Söderlund et al. (2004) and present-day CHUR Lu-Hf composition of Bouvier et al. (2008) by Andersen et al. (2009) was used as a reference. This model has a present-day  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  value of 0.28325 ( $\epsilon\text{Hf} = +16.4$ ) at  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf} = 0.0388$ , similar to modern-day MORB (Andersen et al., 2009).

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Table S4.2.1 (1) : PHS circuit I, A-UCPMS, analyses of reference circuits

[illegible]







Supplemental File S4-3: Fishenreset and Nunatarnok Pb isotope compositions

Table S4-3.1: An contrasts, Pb concentration and LA-MC-ICP-MS Pb isotope compositions for the Fishenreset anorthite cogenes, south West Greenland

Sample	file name	spot size (µm <sup>2</sup> )	AVG An-molar <sup>2</sup>	AVG Pb (ppm) <sup>2</sup>	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>207</sup> Pb	ISD	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>207</sup> Pb	ISD	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>207</sup> Pb	ISD	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>207</sup> Pb	ISD	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>207</sup> Pb	ISD
<b>Lower Leucogabbro</b>														
159430b	j22b12	40	85.4	9.0	13.132	0.106	14.337	0.096	32.695	0.217	1.096	0.002	2.502	0.005
	j22b16	40	86.4	9.7	13.250	0.115	14.488	0.098	33.200	0.241	1.094	0.002	2.512	0.005
	j22b17	40	86.2	9.2	13.238	0.147	14.504	0.147	33.064	0.331	1.095	0.003	2.504	0.008
	j22b22	40	86.5	9.1	13.079	0.111	14.276	0.099	32.548	0.216	1.095	0.002	2.503	0.006
	j22b23	40	86.8	9.0	13.127	0.117	14.423	0.105	32.885	0.244	1.095	0.002	2.506	0.005
	j22b24	40	86.6	8.9	13.008	0.119	14.375	0.109	32.862	0.238	1.098	0.003	2.517	0.006
	j22b28	40	87.4	9.2	13.111	0.126	14.361	0.109	32.740	0.265	1.097	0.003	2.505	0.005
	j22b29	40	87.8	8.2	13.105	0.134	14.365	0.118	32.722	0.265	1.095	0.003	2.498	0.006
	j22b30	40	87.1	8.8	13.149	0.126	14.471	0.114	32.028	0.305	1.092	0.003	2.497	0.006
	j22b35	40	87.2	9.0	13.169	0.146	14.350	0.138	32.961	0.284	1.089	0.003	2.492	0.007
	j22b36	40	86.5	9.2	13.152	0.120	14.370	0.104	32.816	0.251	1.089	0.002	2.484	0.006
	mean		86.7	9.0	13.144		14.393		32.875		1.094		2.502	
	SD (1s)		0.7	0.4	0.058		0.070		0.174		0.003		0.009	
	%RSD (1s)		0.8%	4.2%	0.4%		0.5%		0.5%		0.3%		0.4%	
<b>Lower Leucogabbro</b>														
159430b	j23a105	60	80.6	9.6	13.092	0.120	14.388	0.077	32.951	0.261	1.098	0.001	2.524	0.003
	j23a106	60	86.5	8.2	13.058	0.122	14.406	0.079	33.022	0.263	1.100	0.001	2.526	0.003
	j23a110	60	87.0	7.9	13.030	0.127	14.377	0.083	33.026	0.275	1.101	0.001	2.523	0.003
	j23a111	60	86.8	8.1	13.051	0.121	14.430	0.080	33.170	0.267	1.101	0.001	2.533	0.003
	j23a112	60	86.7	8.4	13.065	0.124	14.434	0.083	33.064	0.279	1.101	0.001	2.533	0.003
	j23a116	60	86.6	8.5	13.087	0.122	14.412	0.079	33.248	0.265	1.099	0.001	2.536	0.003
	j23a117	60	87.1	8.3	13.147	0.125	14.444	0.083	33.307	0.271	1.097	0.001	2.531	0.003
	j23a122	60	87.1	8.2	13.080	0.128	14.331	0.083	32.921	0.275	1.100	0.001	2.523	0.003
	j23a125	60	86.7	8.3	13.117	0.126	14.392	0.083	33.067	0.274	1.099	0.001	2.525	0.003
	j23a124	60	86.4	8.2	13.097	0.110	14.345	0.079	32.942	0.263	1.096	0.001	2.525	0.003
	j23a128	60	n/a	n/a	13.165	0.120	14.430	0.081	33.201	0.265	1.096	0.001	2.528	0.003
	j23a129	60	n/a	n/a	13.179	0.121	14.451	0.078	33.164	0.264	1.096	0.001	2.520	0.003
	mean		86.1	8.4	13.098		14.403		33.085		1.099		2.527	
	SD (1s)		2.0	0.5	0.046		0.059		0.129		0.002		0.006	
	%RSD (1s)		2.3%	5.0%	0.4%		0.3%		0.4%		0.2%		0.2%	
<b>Lower Leucogabbro</b>														
159437	na15c10	90	86.4	4.3	13.037	0.082	14.364	0.068	32.658	0.165	1.101	0.002	2.505	0.004
	na15c11	90	86.6	4.1	13.071	0.084	14.390	0.071	32.630	0.169	1.103	0.002	2.505	0.004
	na15c12	90	87.4	3.2	13.130	0.077	14.419	0.065	32.800	0.155	1.101	0.002	2.508	0.003
	na15c16	90	87.9	2.7	12.951	0.076	14.312	0.066	32.590	0.148	1.104	0.001	2.512	0.003
	na15c17	90	87.2	2.2	12.813	0.077	14.112	0.068	32.227	0.152	1.102	0.002	2.511	0.003
	na15c23	90	87.1	2.3	12.811	0.094	14.060	0.088	32.974	0.210	1.099	0.002	2.503	0.004
	na15c24	90	87.1	2.8	13.042	0.086	14.302	0.070	32.593	0.166	1.098	0.002	2.501	0.004
	na15c28	90	87.2	2.3	12.904	0.077	14.313	0.071	32.442	0.145	1.098	0.002	2.509	0.004
	na15c29	90	86.8	1.8	12.946	0.124	14.165	0.111	32.349	0.273	1.094	0.002	2.498	0.004
	na15c30	90	87.3	1.8	12.976	0.100	14.302	0.091	32.389	0.302	1.102	0.002	2.497	0.004
	na15c34	90	88.1	1.8	13.059	0.090	14.425	0.079	32.786	0.175	1.106	0.002	2.517	0.005
	na15c35	90	87.0	2.1	13.094	0.076	14.430	0.070	32.899	0.154	1.101	0.002	2.506	0.004
	na15c36	90	87.2	2.6	13.085	0.074	14.409	0.067	32.862	0.151	1.101	0.002	2.511	0.003
	na15c41	90	86.6	3.3	13.064	0.076	14.328	0.055	32.446	0.145	1.102	0.002	2.513	0.003
	na15c46	90	85.9	4.4	13.010	0.070	14.326	0.060	32.714	0.140	1.103	0.001	2.518	0.003
	mean		87.0	2.8	13.086		14.309		32.584		1.101		2.508	
	SD (1s)		0.6	0.9	0.097		0.118		0.246		0.003		0.006	
	%RSD (1s)		0.6%	32.0%	0.7%		0.8%		0.8%		0.3%		0.2%	
<b>MAfic Gabbro</b>														
159440	j27a105	40	87.8	1.5	13.096	0.100	14.329	0.112	32.463	0.257	1.091	0.002	2.479	0.004
	j27a106	40	88.3	1.4	13.063	0.084	14.179	0.099	32.322	0.256	1.091	0.003	2.469	0.005
	j27a111	40	88.4	1.2	13.061	0.085	14.171	0.086	32.429	0.219	1.081	0.003	2.477	0.005
	mean		88.2	1.4	13.073		14.226		32.334		1.088		2.475	
	SD (1s)		0.3	0.1	0.020		0.089		0.186		0.006		0.006	
	%RSD (1s)		0.3%	10.1%	0.1%		0.6%		0.6%		0.5%		0.2%	
<b>MAfic Gabbro</b>														
159440	j27a110	40	89.9	3.4	13.369	0.173	14.484	0.173	32.971	0.369	1.084	0.005	2.467	0.011
	j27a111	40	90.0	3.5	13.340	0.180	14.621	0.165	32.993	0.394	1.087	0.005	2.466	0.011
	j27a112	40	90.0	3.4	13.312	0.175	14.377	0.155	32.749	0.363	1.085	0.004	2.430	0.011
	j27a113	40	89.6	3.6	13.358	0.185	14.456	0.172	32.694	0.394	1.088	0.005	2.452	0.011

j27a24	50	80.6	4.6	14.398	1.185	15.406	1.172	32.604	1.794	2.088	1.005	3.452	1.001
j27a29	40	80.8	3.5	13.216	0.227	14.501	0.254	32.561	0.512	1.002	0.005	2.408	0.012
j27a34	40	80.5	3.1	13.262	0.179	14.333	0.167	32.598	0.366	1.080	0.005	2.447	0.012
j27a35	40	80.4	3.3	13.214	0.066	14.297	0.153	32.352	0.339	1.087	0.005	2.448	0.012
j27a37	40	80.3	3.5	13.253	0.175	14.411	0.168	32.483	0.400	1.086	0.004	2.446	0.012
mean		80.8	3.5	13.449		14.559		32.748		1.197		2.548	
SD (hs)		0.4	0.1	0.261		0.354		0.437		0.334		0.332	
%RSD (hs)		0.4%	0.1%	0.2%		0.4%		1.3%		27.9%		12.9%	

<b>Upper Leucogabro</b>													
124613 j26a05	60	86.1	2.0	13.192	0.097	14.351	0.120	32.560	0.318	1.091	0.004	2.402	0.012
j26a06	60	86.8	1.9	13.224	0.107	14.370	0.121	32.448	0.346	1.079	0.004	2.454	0.011
j26a10	60	87.4	1.7	13.092	0.092	14.409	0.121	32.572	0.306	1.097	0.004	2.406	0.011
j26a11	60	87.6	1.8	13.052	0.105	14.406	0.130	32.560	0.328	1.102	0.004	2.405	0.011
j26a12	60	87.3	1.7	13.078	0.095	14.270	0.121	32.582	0.304	1.095	0.004	2.404	0.011
j26a16	60	87.4	1.7	13.197	0.114	14.598	0.148	32.848	0.348	1.095	0.004	2.491	0.011
j26a17	60	87.5	1.7	13.195	0.108	14.560	0.124	32.627	0.347	1.098	0.004	2.489	0.011
j26a18	60	87.2	1.7	13.193	0.103	14.327	0.141	32.571	0.344	1.094	0.004	2.486	0.011
j26a23	60	87.6	1.7	13.184	0.110	14.266	0.138	32.682	0.339	1.090	0.004	2.491	0.011
j26a24	40	85.8	1.8	13.138	0.109	14.311	0.138	32.707	0.347	1.094	0.004	2.499	0.011
j26a28	60	84.0	1.7	13.101	0.114	14.213	0.143	32.344	0.365	1.087	0.004	2.483	0.012
j26a29	60	83.7	1.8	13.175	0.135	14.301	0.158	32.498	0.369	1.088	0.005	2.476	0.012
j26a30	60	81.0	1.9	13.224	0.088	14.284	0.121	32.702	0.307	1.089	0.004	2.467	0.011
mean		86.1	1.8	13.143		14.328		32.589		1.092		2.485	
SD (hs)		2.1	0.1	0.063		0.061		0.130		0.006		0.013	
%RSD (hs)		2.4%	0.0%	0.5%		0.4%		0.4%		0.5%		0.5%	

<b>Upper Leucogabro</b>													
124665 no1a17	90	87.2	0.88	12.939	0.099	14.070	0.108	31.979	0.250	1.087	0.003	2.481	0.004
no1a18	90	87.8	0.84	13.429	0.096	14.639	0.107	33.327	0.255	1.090	0.004	2.480	0.005
no1a22	90	88.1	0.81	13.095	0.110	14.172	0.122	32.665	0.301	1.085	0.004	2.481	0.005
no1a25	90	88.0	0.84	13.155	0.123	14.119	0.132	32.714	0.301	1.090	0.004	2.482	0.005
no1a24	90	87.6	0.86	13.127	0.101	14.369	0.113	32.556	0.247	1.092	0.003	2.476	0.005
no1a29	90	88.2	0.86	13.413	0.090	14.661	0.105	33.385	0.235	1.095	0.004	2.489	0.005
no1a30	90	88.2	0.94	13.130	0.098	14.271	0.108	32.598	0.248	1.085	0.003	2.477	0.005
no1a06	90	88.2	0.94	13.049	0.128	14.218	0.141	32.287	0.333	1.085	0.003	2.485	0.005
no1a11	90	88.2	0.78	13.177	0.141	14.491	0.148	32.765	0.339	1.096	0.003	2.492	0.006
no1a12	90	88.7	0.79	13.168	0.122	14.319	0.131	32.612	0.334	1.093	0.003	2.479	0.006
no1a16	90	88.6	0.76	13.283	0.135	14.438	0.154	32.909	0.367	1.084	0.002	2.471	0.005
no1a17	90	88.7	0.89	13.310	0.191	14.530	0.175	32.952	0.418	1.092	0.003	2.477	0.006
mean		88.1	0.9	13.198		14.375		32.722		1.089		2.481	
SD (hs)		0.5	0.1	0.152		0.183		0.396		0.004		0.007	
%RSD (hs)		0.5%	0.8%	1.2%		1.3%		1.2%		0.4%		0.3%	

<b>Upper Leucogabro</b>													
125745 j26a05	60	85.1	3.4	13.172	0.132	14.439	0.145	32.817	0.318	1.094	0.003	2.497	0.004
j26a06	60	85.1	3.6	13.098	0.114	14.333	0.120	32.724	0.255	1.094	0.002	2.492	0.005
j26a10	60	84.4	3.5	13.095	0.099	14.319	0.106	32.811	0.225	1.089	0.002	2.494	0.004
j26a11	60	84.4	3.5	13.106	0.113	14.307	0.120	32.617	0.271	1.093	0.002	2.484	0.004
j26a12	60	85.2	3.4	13.322	0.113	14.560	0.122	33.108	0.262	1.094	0.003	2.484	0.005
j26a16	60	86.1	3.3	13.209	0.096	14.383	0.101	32.936	0.228	1.089	0.002	2.497	0.004
j26a17	60	85.7	3.3	13.141	0.099	14.397	0.107	32.692	0.226	1.096	0.002	2.499	0.005
j26a24	60	85.2	3.4	13.760	0.111	14.456	0.116	32.830	0.245	1.093	0.002	2.486	0.004
mean		85.3	3.4	13.179		14.399		32.817		1.092		2.492	
SD (hs)		0.5	0.1	0.088		0.085		0.153		0.003		0.006	
%RSD (hs)		0.6%	0.3%	0.7%		0.6%		0.5%		0.2%		0.3%	

<b>Upper Leucogabro</b>													
125747 j26a06	60	87.2	2.3	13.233	0.125	14.452	0.134	33.018	0.307	1.094	0.003	2.495	0.007
j26a10	60	87.5	2.4	12.827	0.106	14.047	0.112	32.175	0.270	1.095	0.003	2.589	0.006
j26a11	60	87.8	3.1	13.137	0.098	14.439	0.109	32.979	0.255	1.092	0.003	2.585	0.006
j26a12	100	87.4	3.8	13.118	0.088	14.383	0.099	32.610	0.225	1.095	0.003	2.586	0.005
j26a16	100	87.5	3.8	13.161	0.099	14.362	0.101	32.949	0.239	1.095	0.003	2.589	0.005
j26a17	100	87.6	3.9	13.111	0.105	14.238	0.118	32.980	0.280	1.093	0.003	2.584	0.005
j26a18	100	87.3	3.7	13.132	0.083	14.395	0.096	32.773	0.217	1.093	0.003	2.498	0.005
j26a25	100	87.0	4.4	13.043	0.124	14.286	0.129	32.641	0.325	1.099	0.003	2.585	0.007
j26a24	100	87.7	4.4	13.006	0.076	14.244	0.084	32.567	0.196	1.095	0.002	2.512	0.004
j26a28	100	87.0	4.7	12.949	0.106	14.105	0.113	32.370	0.288	1.097	0.003	2.501	0.007
j26a29	100	87.2	4.7	12.977	0.083	14.238	0.090	32.628	0.213	1.098	0.003	2.516	0.005
j26a30	100	87.2	4.8	13.024	0.079	14.266	0.088	32.853	0.206	1.096	0.002	2.511	0.004
j26a34	100	87.1	5.3	13.223	0.080	14.456	0.088	33.055	0.205	1.094	0.002	2.504	0.005
j26a35	100	86.6	5.1	13.044	0.079	14.272	0.087	32.724	0.204	1.092	0.002	2.512	0.004
j26a36	100	86.6	5.1	13.210	0.077	14.453	0.086	33.028	0.203	1.092	0.002	2.503	0.004



pat010	68	84.8	3.5	12.950	0.126	14.217	0.111	32.408	0.282	1.008	0.001	2.516	0.003
pat011	68	80.9	3.7	12.856	0.109	14.155	0.092	32.292	0.250	1.101	0.001	2.518	0.003
pat012	68	81.2	3.4	12.913	0.113	14.262	0.088	32.543	0.247	1.101	0.002	2.523	0.004
pat016	68	81.3	4.0	12.915	0.119	14.222	0.094	32.507	0.260	1.100	0.001	2.519	0.003
pat023	68	82.1	3.5	12.804	0.107	14.209	0.095	32.765	0.246	1.097	0.001	2.531	0.003
pat024	68	86.4	3.6	12.894	0.102	14.206	0.084	32.758	0.253	1.098	0.001	2.532	0.003
pat028	68	87.3	3.6	12.910	0.102	14.238	0.094	32.642	0.237	1.087	0.002	2.526	0.003
pat029	68	87.1	3.5	12.909	0.123	14.225	0.103	32.610	0.270	1.098	0.001	2.520	0.003
pat034	68	86.8	3.2	12.975	0.116	14.287	0.100	32.777	0.261	1.101	0.001	2.529	0.003
pat035	68	86.0	3.6	12.955	0.135	14.250	0.110	32.697	0.291	1.100	0.002	2.523	0.004
pat036	68	87.0	3.6	12.939	0.108	14.247	0.091	32.872	0.244	1.101	0.001	2.523	0.003
pat041	68	87.0	3.6	12.949	0.112	14.244	0.095	32.654	0.253	1.101	0.001	2.521	0.003
pat042	68	85.9	3.3	12.910	0.097	14.275	0.083	33.024	0.276	1.101	0.001	2.523	0.003
mean		84.6	3.6	12.933		14.247		32.642		1.100		2.522	
SD (1s)		2.4	0.2	0.047		0.055		0.183		0.002		0.005	
%RSD (1s)		2.8%	5.3%	0.4%		0.4%		0.6%		0.2%		0.2%	

Anorthosite													
pat210	40	85.4	8.7	12.810	0.111	14.132	0.105	32.202	0.270	1.103	0.004	2.513	0.009
pat212	40	86.1	8.7	12.844	0.111	14.208	0.120	32.526	0.294	1.098	0.004	2.502	0.009
pat216	40	84.8	9.0	12.288	0.120	14.529	0.124	33.168	0.297	1.097	0.005	2.503	0.009
pat217	40	84.7	6.4	13.250	0.141	14.384	0.122	33.097	0.308	1.087	0.004	2.498	0.008
pat218	40	83.9	7.3	13.146	0.127	14.527	0.122	32.916	0.305	1.103	0.005	2.513	0.010
pat219	40	82.1	8.6	13.121	0.133	14.408	0.125	32.924	0.306	1.099	0.004	2.505	0.009
pat220	40	84.3	7.6	13.072	0.126	14.277	0.132	32.693	0.331	1.095	0.005	2.508	0.009
pat234	40	85.2	7.8	12.904	0.123	14.773	0.122	32.669	0.288	1.103	0.004	2.518	0.009
pat235	40	82.6	8.4	12.935	0.130	14.307	0.127	32.429	0.321	1.094	0.004	2.504	0.009
mean		84.1	8.1	13.035		14.350		32.719		1.098		2.507	
SD (1s)		1.3	0.9	0.107		0.134		0.337		0.007		0.015	
%RSD (1s)		1.4%	10.4%	1.3%		0.9%		1.0%		0.5%		0.3%	

Anorthosite													
pat210	68	83.6	4.8	13.175	0.091	14.450	0.080	33.031	0.214	1.099	0.002	2.509	0.005
pat211	68	86.1	4.6	13.189	0.081	14.476	0.073	33.169	0.195	1.101	0.002	2.514	0.005
pat212	68	86.4	4.4	13.133	0.085	14.406	0.077	32.965	0.207	1.099	0.002	2.513	0.005
pat216	68	86.4	4.4	13.024	0.085	14.303	0.075	32.825	0.206	1.096	0.002	2.516	0.005
pat217	68	86.8	4.3	13.118	0.086	14.409	0.077	33.042	0.208	1.101	0.002	2.517	0.005
pat218	68	86.1	4.2	13.101	0.087	14.341	0.080	32.880	0.217	1.097	0.002	2.515	0.005
pat223	68	87.1	4.3	13.045	0.089	14.360	0.077	32.780	0.219	1.104	0.002	2.519	0.005
pat224	68	86.9	4.1	13.133	0.088	14.407	0.078	32.946	0.207	1.100	0.002	2.524	0.005
pat228	68	86.9	4.5	12.962	0.100	14.265	0.093	32.378	0.259	1.101	0.003	2.511	0.007
pat229	68	86.7	4.3	12.866	0.091	14.126	0.083	32.424	0.213	1.099	0.002	2.520	0.005
pat230	68	86.4	4.5	12.893	0.084	14.163	0.081	32.415	0.206	1.099	0.002	2.515	0.005
pat234	68	86.2	4.5	13.625	0.083	14.290	0.074	32.044	0.200	1.103	0.002	2.523	0.005
pat235	68	86.4	4.7	12.941	0.088	14.238	0.079	32.575	0.212	1.100	0.002	2.518	0.005
pat236	68	86.0	5.1	13.030	0.088	14.309	0.086	32.752	0.208	1.098	0.002	2.514	0.005
pat241	68	86.5	4.9	13.050	0.091	14.364	0.086	32.777	0.220	1.100	0.002	2.506	0.005
pat242	68	83.6	4.9	13.177	0.091	14.432	0.083	32.969	0.219	1.098	0.002	2.510	0.005
pat246	68	84.3	5.0	13.136	0.092	14.447	0.085	32.967	0.213	1.097	0.002	2.512	0.005
pat247	68	82.8	4.9	13.073	0.085	14.383	0.077	32.800	0.201	1.103	0.002	2.520	0.005
mean		86.1	4.6	13.062		14.344		32.800		1.100		2.516	
SD (1s)		0.9	0.3	0.095		0.100		0.229		0.002		0.005	
%RSD (1s)		1.1%	6.5%	0.7%		0.7%		0.7%		0.2%		0.2%	

Anorthosite													
pat016	68	79.3	9.4	13.181	0.084	14.382	0.095	33.016	0.303	1.093	0.003	2.510	0.003
pat018	68	81.1	8.8	13.177	0.089	14.484	0.101	33.044	0.311	1.096	0.003	2.512	0.004
pat011	68	80.2	8.6	13.036	0.085	14.384	0.100	32.861	0.309	1.099	0.004	2.515	0.004
pat012	68	81.4	8.5	13.158	0.085	14.482	0.097	33.043	0.306	1.099	0.004	2.513	0.004
pat016	68	80.3	8.8	13.064	0.087	14.362	0.099	32.852	0.310	1.100	0.004	2.516	0.004
pat017	68	79.0	8.7	13.118	0.085	14.419	0.098	32.820	0.309	1.099	0.004	2.511	0.004
pat018	68	82.4	8.3	13.119	0.088	14.452	0.098	32.969	0.310	1.101	0.003	2.512	0.004
pat023	68	83.0	8.2	13.092	0.085	14.413	0.098	32.932	0.306	1.102	0.004	2.515	0.004
pat024	68	83.9	7.7	13.086	0.086	14.372	0.100	32.851	0.306	1.100	0.004	2.511	0.004
pat028	68	86.3	8.1	13.088	0.086	14.273	0.099	32.555	0.306	1.102	0.003	2.515	0.004
pat029	68	83.6	8.2	12.982	0.086	14.341	0.097	32.617	0.308	1.103	0.004	2.506	0.003
pat030	68	86.1	8.5	13.003	0.087	14.308	0.099	32.563	0.309	1.103	0.004	2.510	0.003
pat034	68	86.0	8.1	13.115	0.085	14.418	0.097	32.942	0.307	1.098	0.004	2.513	0.004
pat035	68	83.8	8.1	13.191	0.084	14.377	0.096	33.045	0.304	1.100	0.004	2.513	0.004
pat040	68	83.7	8.3	13.198	0.090	14.432	0.100	33.123	0.314	1.099	0.003	2.510	0.003
pat041	68	83.6	8.5	13.186	0.085	14.326	0.098	33.150	0.305	1.100	0.003	2.513	0.003
pat042	68	83.9	8.5	13.167	0.085	14.465	0.097	33.114	0.307	1.099	0.004	2.513	0.003
pat047	68	84.6	8.3	13.177	0.086	14.428	0.099	32.949	0.309	1.098	0.004	2.513	0.004
mean		83.6	8.4	13.105		14.410		32.989		1.099		2.513	

SD (1s)	2.6	0.4	0.008	0.006	0.179	0.002	0.002
%RSD (1s)	3.2%	4.3%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.2%	0.1%

Notes:

<sup>1)</sup> 'Element' is the name underneath each MC-LA-ICPMS Pb isotope analysis is size of

laser spot size for MC-LA-ICPMS Pb isotope analysis

<sup>2)</sup> determined by EPA-A, method details given in Electronic Annex EA-1

<sup>3)</sup> determined by LA-ICPMS, full method details given in Electronic Annex EA-1

Table S4-32: As contents, Pb concentration and LA-MC-ICP-MS Pb isotope compositions for the Nunavutavak anorthosite complex, south West Greenland

Sample	file	spot	AVG	AVG	As (ppm)	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>208</sup> Pb	ISO	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>208</sup> Pb	ISO	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>208</sup> Pb	ISO	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>208</sup> Pb	ISO	<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>208</sup> Pb	ISO
name	size (mm)														
<b>Lower Leucophaeo-anorthosite</b>															
NB-46	ja7818	99	76.7	3.9	12.876	0.108	14.019	0.106	32.618	0.254	1.094	0.002	2.550	0.005	
	ja7823	99	81.3	3.7	12.960	0.110	14.118	0.106	32.662	0.256	1.091	0.002	2.548	0.005	
	ja7824	99	81.3	3.9	12.803	0.112	14.083	0.115	32.657	0.270	1.097	0.002	2.545	0.005	
	ja7828	99	81.6	3.8	12.869	0.106	14.232	0.107	32.911	0.256	1.103	0.002	2.555	0.005	
	ja7829	99	79.9	4.0	12.832	0.105	14.077	0.104	32.610	0.249	1.097	0.002	2.544	0.005	
	ja7830	99	72.7	4.0	12.807	0.104	14.051	0.103	32.703	0.248	1.100	0.002	2.553	0.005	
	ja7842	99	75.3	4.0	12.808	0.105	13.999	0.105	32.642	0.251	1.092	0.002	2.543	0.005	
	ja7846	99	75.7	3.9	12.772	0.105	14.093	0.105	32.679	0.251	1.099	0.002	2.545	0.005	
	ja7847	99	77.6	4.2	12.847	0.107	14.134	0.104	32.732	0.252	1.099	0.002	2.547	0.005	
	ja7848	99	78.0	4.1	12.730	0.105	13.957	0.104	32.245	0.252	1.098	0.002	2.546	0.005	
	ja7852	99	76.7	4.2	12.912	0.106	14.040	0.105	32.541	0.253	1.087	0.002	2.522	0.005	
	ja7853	99	77.1	4.2	12.908	0.109	14.109	0.105	32.767	0.258	1.096	0.002	2.533	0.005	
	mean		78.0	4.0	12.838		14.083		32.631		1.097		2.544		
	SD (1σ)		2.7	4.2	0.059		0.076		0.164		0.004		0.009		
	%RSD (1σ)		3.5%	4.0%	0.5%		0.6%		0.5%		0.4%		0.4%		
<b>NB-10</b>															
	ja7824	99	n/a	n/a	12.844	0.116	14.136	0.105	32.932	0.274	1.094	0.002	2.554	0.005	
	ja7829	99	n/a	n/a	12.767	0.112	13.798	0.101	31.926	0.262	1.094	0.002	2.543	0.005	
	ja7825	99	n/a	n/a	12.769	0.124	13.872	0.117	32.331	0.298	1.089	0.003	2.543	0.006	
	ja7836	99	n/a	n/a	12.760	0.117	14.032	0.107	32.706	0.286	1.099	0.002	2.551	0.005	
	ja7842	99	n/a	n/a	12.786	0.112	14.125	0.101	32.651	0.265	1.095	0.002	2.550	0.005	
	ja7846	99	n/a	n/a	12.739	0.126	14.037	0.114	32.566	0.294	1.103	0.003	2.553	0.006	
	ja7848	99	n/a	n/a	12.736	0.115	13.946	0.106	32.449	0.277	1.096	0.002	2.541	0.006	
	ja7852	99	n/a	n/a	12.762	0.126	13.965	0.106	32.394	0.285	1.088	0.003	2.533	0.007	
	ja7859	99	78.4	2.4	12.723	0.116	13.945	0.106	32.418	0.276	1.092	0.002	2.536	0.006	
	ja7861	99	78.0	2.4	12.676	0.112	13.934	0.100	32.344	0.266	1.091	0.002	2.535	0.006	
	ja7864	99	76.5	2.5	12.570	0.111	13.736	0.100	32.078	0.267	1.087	0.002	2.535	0.005	
	ja7865	99	75.9	2.5	12.590	0.121	13.821	0.113	32.107	0.287	1.098	0.003	2.538	0.006	
	ja7866	99	75.9	2.7	12.684	0.115	13.832	0.101	32.172	0.267	1.102	0.002	2.540	0.006	
	mean		76.6	2.5	12.699		13.935		32.189		1.095		2.543		
	SD (1σ)		1.9	0.1	0.090		0.125		0.281		0.005		0.009		
	%RSD (1σ)		2.4%	5.0%	0.7%		0.9%		0.9%		0.4%		0.4%		
<b>NB-84</b>															
	j11a11	99	n/a	n/a	12.447	0.121	13.845	0.110	32.493	0.250	1.113	0.004	2.612	0.005	
	j11a12	99	87.6	2.3	12.497	0.127	13.853	0.119	32.553	0.253	1.107	0.005	2.589	0.005	
	j11a17	99	80.0	2.3	12.478	0.125	13.856	0.119	32.457	0.251	1.115	0.004	2.593	0.005	
	j11a18	99	89.0	2.4	12.457	0.123	13.817	0.114	32.151	0.241	1.115	0.004	2.586	0.005	
	j11a22	99	88.4	2.4	12.556	0.127	14.003	0.119	32.419	0.254	1.123	0.005	2.584	0.005	
	j11a23	99	88.1	2.3	12.554	0.124	14.021	0.116	32.425	0.247	1.120	0.004	2.585	0.005	
	j11a24	99	84.3	3.3	12.488	0.122	13.948	0.112	32.301	0.235	1.125	0.004	2.602	0.005	
	j11a29	99	n/a	3.3	12.373	0.120	13.768	0.110	32.215	0.228	1.113	0.004	2.604	0.005	
	j11a30	99	89.2	2.4	12.438	0.123	13.885	0.114	32.151	0.239	1.112	0.004	2.586	0.005	
	j11a34	99	89.1	2.3	12.567	0.131	13.837	0.127	32.317	0.260	1.110	0.005	2.579	0.006	
	mean		88.0	2.5	12.471		13.902		32.348		1.115		2.592		
	SD (1σ)		1.6	0.4	0.099		0.101		0.143		0.006		0.010		
	%RSD (1σ)		1.8%	17.0%	0.9%		0.7%		0.4%		0.5%		0.4%		
<b>Upper Leucophaeo-anorthosite</b>															
<b>NB-45A</b>															
	ja2846	109	83.5	1.8	12.656	0.113	14.074	0.114	32.434	0.292	1.109	0.002	2.560	0.005	
	ja2849	109	83.5	1.5	12.608	0.118	14.025	0.114	32.208	0.288	1.107	0.002	2.562	0.005	
	ja2851	109	83.6	1.3	12.897	0.120	14.032	0.129	32.292	0.316	1.113	0.003	2.564	0.006	
	ja2848	109	82.4	1.3	12.554	0.123	13.843	0.121	32.215	0.307	1.103	0.003	2.560	0.006	
	ja2843	109	83.0	1.3	12.286	0.133	13.635	0.137	31.543	0.339	1.112	0.003	2.571	0.006	
	ja2828	109	82.9	1.4	12.429	0.141	13.903	0.141	32.053	0.353	1.119	0.004	2.589	0.007	
	ja2829	109	82.1	1.4	12.393	0.131	13.761	0.132	31.748	0.323	1.111	0.003	2.565	0.006	
	ja2830	109	82.3	1.4	12.623	0.141	14.076	0.151	32.608	0.305	1.104	0.004	2.568	0.006	
	ja2835	109	81.8	1.3	12.886	0.134	13.746	0.131	31.825	0.342	1.115	0.003	2.568	0.007	
	ja2836	109	n/a	n/a	12.534	0.162	13.938	0.171	32.013	0.414	1.109	0.004	2.560	0.006	
	ja2841	109	n/a	n/a	12.364	0.134	13.726	0.133	31.854	0.341	1.112	0.003	2.566	0.006	
	ja2842	109	n/a	n/a	12.411	0.118	13.814	0.119	32.050	0.301	1.110	0.003	2.575	0.006	
	mean		82.8	1.4	12.485		13.881		32.078		1.110		2.564		
	SD (1σ)		0.7	0.2	0.127		0.136		0.307		0.004		0.009		

			%dRSD (1σ)		0.3%	11.7%	1.0%	1.1%	1.0%	0.4%	0.3%			
NBS-72	ju25a06	σ <sub>D</sub>	79.3	6.9	12.886	0.120	14.841	0.097	32.802	0.264	1.096	0.002	2.547	0.004
	ju25a10	σ <sub>D</sub>	81.5	6.4	12.859	0.125	14.137	0.107	32.754	0.282	1.102	0.002	2.545	0.004
	ju25a11	σ <sub>D</sub>	79.9	6.8	12.775	0.120	14.844	0.098	32.539	0.266	1.100	0.002	2.545	0.004
	ju25a12	σ <sub>D</sub>	82.2	6.5	12.736	0.121	13.977	0.097	32.509	0.267	1.102	0.002	2.550	0.004
	ju25a16	σ <sub>D</sub>	83.5	6.6	12.801	0.121	14.440	0.100	32.626	0.271	1.096	0.002	2.547	0.004
	ju25a17	σ <sub>D</sub>	81.7	6.8	12.754	0.124	14.077	0.103	32.555	0.276	1.102	0.002	2.556	0.004
	ju25a18	σ <sub>D</sub>	77.9	6.6	12.861	0.121	14.033	0.099	32.580	0.269	1.094	0.002	2.538	0.004
	ju25a30	σ <sub>D</sub>	76.2	6.6	12.697	0.129	13.984	0.108	32.366	0.288	1.102	0.003	2.547	0.006
	ju25a42	σ <sub>D</sub>	76.2	7.2	12.754	0.125	14.095	0.105	32.583	0.282	1.097	0.002	2.546	0.005
	ju25a46	σ <sub>D</sub>	76.1	n/a	12.779	0.123	14.100	0.104	32.484	0.277	1.102	0.002	2.541	0.004
	ju25a47	σ <sub>D</sub>	74.7	7.1	12.749	0.122	14.048	0.102	32.394	0.271	1.103	0.002	2.545	0.004
	mean		79.6	6.7	12.779		14.052		32.545		1.100		2.546	
	SD (1σ)		3.6	0.3	0.050		0.048		0.108		0.003		0.005	
	%dRSD (1σ)		3.7%	3.8%	0.4%		0.3%		0.3%		0.3%		0.2%	
NBS-41A	ju22a18	σ <sub>D</sub>	83.3	2.8	12.786	0.096	13.992	0.098	32.435	0.218	1.084	0.003	2.514	0.005
	ju22a28	σ <sub>D</sub>	85.2	2.1	12.729	0.086	13.864	0.093	31.926	0.204	1.082	0.002	2.523	0.005
	ju22a35	σ <sub>D</sub>	89.4	1.8	12.693	0.096	13.853	0.104	31.677	0.225	1.093	0.003	2.497	0.005
	mean		86.0	2.8	12.716		13.903		32.013		1.090		2.511	
	SD (1σ)		3.1	0.1	0.047		0.078		0.386		0.005		0.013	
%dRSD (1σ)		3.0%	5.9%	0.4%		0.6%		1.2%		0.4%		0.9%		

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Yellname<sup>2</sup> in the name underwith each MC-LA-ICPMS Pb isotope analysis is an aid

<sup>2</sup> Inner spot size for MC-LA-ICPMS Pb isotope analysis

<sup>3</sup> determined by EPMA, method details given in Electronic Annex EA-1

<sup>4</sup> determined by LA-ICPMS, full method details given in Electronic Annex EA-1



## Chapter 5: Summary

The Earth is differentiated into a mantle and crust but the timing and mechanism of these differentiation events is uncertain. Some researchers have argued for massive to moderate amounts of continental crust formation in the Archean while others have argued for large amounts of early mafic crust that was quickly recycled back into the deep mantle. The long-lived incompatible element depletion of the upper mantle provides some of the best evidence for the early crust because rocks older than ~3 Ga are rare in the present-day crust. A major limiting factor for studies of ancient crust-mantle differentiation is the pervasive metamorphism and secondary alteration affecting almost all Archean rock samples preserved today at the surface of the Earth. The significance of whole rock analyses of Archean rocks for trace elements and radiogenic isotopes is unclear, and debate over whether magmatic compositions are preserved by whole rocks is ongoing.

Advances in analytical equipment over the past 10 to 15 years, particularly LA-ICPMS and SIMS, have allowed earth scientists to take an alternative approach to geochemistry. Instead of analyzing bulk samples, scientists can utilize in-situ methods and target magmatic domains preserved in individual minerals, identified traditionally using a polarizing optical microscope and further characterized with BSE and CL imaging by scanning electron microscopy. It is expected these magmatic domains preserve initial parent-daughter isotope ratios, which provide information about magma sources.

It is recognized that tholeiites are the major product of mantle-derived magmatism

in the Archean. Unfortunately, the fine-grained minerals in these rocks are typically affected pervasively by secondary alteration and metamorphic reaction. In principle, magmatic minerals, or domains therein, may be preserved in Archean tholeiites and could be targeted for in-situ analysis. In practice, however, the small crystal size and extent of secondary processing makes this task difficult. A more attractive approach for in situ analysis is to use coarse-grained plutonic rocks with igneous domains that are more likely to be preserved and more easily identified within the larger crystals present.

Anorthosites are a distinct rock type of the Archean with characteristic plagioclase megacrysts that have long been interpreted as preserved igneous minerals. It has also become obvious that Archean anorthosites contain zircon, which can be used to establish robust crystallization ages for anorthosite complexes through U-Pb geochronology. The zircon also can provide insights into the nature of the source of anorthosite magmas using Lu-Hf isotopes. In-situ methods to determine the Hf isotope composition of zircons have expanded during the recent past due to development of LA-MC-ICPMS methods, which enable targeting of specific domains within a zircon crystal to focus on the characterization of a specific source. Hf isotopes in zircon are ideal tracers of mantle evolution and the timing of crust formation because of their low Lu/Hf (parent/daughter) ratio, requiring minimal correction for radiogenic in-growth, and the demonstrated ability of zircon to preserve initial isotope compositions through metamorphism and secondary alteration.

Although the Hf composition of zircon is a powerful isotopic tracer, a limitation of the Hf-zircon method is the inability to constrain both the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ , characteristic of

the mantle and/or crustal sources, and the Hf depleted mantle model age ( $T_{DM}$ ) of the host rocks of the zircon uniquely: one must be assumed to calculate the other. One approach used to constrain  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  and  $T_{DM}$  is to link Hf isotope compositions and O-isotope compositions measured from the same zircon crystal.  $T_{DM}$  for zircon grains with "mantle-like" O-isotope compositions are calculated using  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratios typical of mantle-derived mafic rocks or primitive granitoids, whereas zircon grains with "elevated" O-isotope ratios are modeled assuming the involvement of sedimentary sources, providing hybrid  $T_{DM}$  ages. In our approach, we use the timing of source extraction,  $T_{DM}$  for mantle-derived rocks such as Archean anorthosites, determined from the in-situ Pb isotope measurements of igneous plagioclase that crystallized from the same magmatic rock as zircon. The value for the  $T_{DM}$  is then used to constrain the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  of the zircon grains analyzed for Hf-isotopes and U-Pb age. The  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  ratio is characteristic of mafic or more evolved sources. Pb isotopes in plagioclase are ideal tracers of crust and mantle evolution as well as sensitive indicators of igneous processes such as magma mixing and crustal contamination. Plagioclase also has the advantage of very low U concentrations requiring minimal correction for radiogenic in-growth. We specifically explored the possibility of using the Pb isotopic measurements in plagioclase from the same rock as the zircon in Archean anorthosites in order to constrain the mantle extraction age and nature of their sources.

The difficulty with measuring Pb isotopes in-situ in plagioclase is the low total Pb concentration, typically less than 15 ppm total Pb. At these levels, laser ablation measurements of the Pb isotope composition of plagioclase are not sufficiently precise

and accurate for studies of igneous geochemistry, using the faraday cup configuration that is standard on multi-collector ICPMS instruments. The integration of ion counters in the collector configuration of the MC-ICPMS can, however, enable in situ isotopic measurement of trace elements in minerals such as Pb isotopes in plagioclase. Ion counters have much greater signal to noise ratios than faraday detectors and a multi-ion counting system has the ability to measure the Pb isotope composition of plagioclase with low total Pb concentrations precisely and accurately. Drawbacks of ion counters are that they are much less stable than faraday detectors and, when the thesis was begun, there was no well-established method for laser ablation Pb isotope measurements using only ion counters in widespread use. A major goal of this thesis was therefore to develop such a method and apply it to Archean anorthosites.

Chapter 2 (thesis paper 1) was the first step in the development of the analytical method to measure in-situ Pb isotopes by LA-MC-ICPMS. The work explored the various aspects of measuring Pb isotopes of 'Pb-poor' (< 15 ppm total Pb) silicate glass standard reference materials. Glasses were chosen over natural minerals because of their presumed homogeneous geochemical and isotopic composition, avoiding the complicating effects of variations in natural minerals, and their well-established Pb isotope composition. The main challenges of making LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope measurements centered around the issues of correcting for the  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  interference on the minor  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope; drift of the ion counters over the course of an analytical session; and the ability to properly correct for mass bias using external correction methods. Average Pb isotope ratios measured using 40  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spots in this study for the MPI-DING

reference glasses T1-G (11.6 ppm total Pb) and ATHO-G (5.67 ppm total Pb) agree within 0.10 % and 0.15 % respectively of the preferred values. For silicate glasses with even lower Pb concentrations, MPI-DING KL2-G (2.07 ppm total Pb) and ML3B-G (1.28 ppm total Pb), measured Pb isotope ratios that include the minor 204-isotope agree within 0.75 % of the accepted values with typical precisions of < 0.85 % (RSD) using 69  $\mu\text{m}$  spots; measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  are within 0.25% of preferred values with precisions of < 0.25% (RSD).

Chapter 3 (thesis paper 2) further explored the LA-MC-ICPMS Pb isotope method applied to in situ analyses addressing the issue of whether or not biases in instrument response, or “matrix effects”, exist between silicate glasses and various minerals, specifically plagioclase and sulfides. The concern was that Pb isotope measurements on certain minerals might suffer from matrix effects unless the calibration standard was an exact matrix match to the target mineral of interest. Feldspar minerals and sulfides, two matrices with large differences in composition and ablation behavior, were chosen to determine the quality of data obtained when calibrating samples with standards having different physical and chemical characteristics. The work demonstrated that matrix matching was not required to accurately measure Pb isotopes in Pb-poor plagioclase and sulfide minerals and that silicate glass reference materials could be used as calibration standards to produce acceptable results for both feldspars and sulfides.

Chapter 4 (thesis paper 3) presented the results of Pb isotope measurements of plagioclase megacrysts from two Archean anorthosite complexes in south West Greenland. The Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk anorthosite complexes are two of the best

preserved Archean anorthosite complexes on Earth. In-situ U-Pb zircon geochronology by LA-ICPMS determined that both anorthosite complexes crystallized at ~ 2900 Ma and LA-MC-ICPMS Lu-Hf isotopic measurements of the zircon demonstrated that they also have a similar range of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  compositions. The  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$  values for both Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk fall between expected values for ~ 2900 Ma depleted mantle and a crustal component. The Pb isotope data for each anorthosite complex share a similar depleted mantle end member but diverge from this point in opposite directions, Fiskenæsset to more radiogenic Pb isotope crustal compositions and Nunataarsuk to less radiogenic Pb isotope crustal compositions. The Pb isotope data are used to constrain the timing of crust extraction for each anorthosite complex (Fiskenæsset = 3700 Ma; Nunataarsuk = 4200 Ma). This information is then used to calculate the  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for the crustal end member of each anorthosite complex. The calculated  $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk are characteristic of mafic crust (~ 0.03). The exciting implication of this result is that ancient, Hadean to Eoarchean mafic crusts survived for ~ 1 billion years within the Archean craton of south West Greenland, and are possibly still preserved in the Fiskenæsset and Nunataarsuk regions today.

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## APPENDIX

**Chap. 15 from Mineralogical Association of Canada Short Course, Vancouver, B.C.**

**Souders A.K. and Sylvester P.J.** (2008b) Use of multiple channeltron ion counters for LA-MC-ICPMS analysis of common lead isotopes in silicate glasses. *In* Laser Ablation ICP-MS in the Earth Sciences: Current Practices and Outstanding Issues, v. 40 (ed. P.J. Sylvester). Mineralogical Association of Canada p. 79 – 92.

## **INTRODUCTION**

One of the most significant developments in laser ablation-inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) over the past decade has been the growth of in situ, high precision isotope ratio analyses of geological materials using multicollector (MC) magnetic sector instruments. A variety of isotopic systems have been investigated including boron (*e.g.* Tiepolo et al., 2006); magnesium (*e.g.* Norman et al., 2006); silicon (*e.g.* Chmieleff et al., 2008); sulfur (*e.g.* Mason et al., 2006); iron and copper (*e.g.* Graham et al., 2004); rubidium-strontium (*e.g.* Woodhead et al., 2005); samarium-neodymium (*e.g.* McFarlane & McCulloch, 2008); lutetium-hafnium (*e.g.* Iizuka & Hirata, 2005); rhenium-osmium (*e.g.* Pearson et al., 2002); uranium-lead (*e.g.* Simonetti et al., 2008) and U-series (*e.g.* Eggins et al., 2005). Most of these studies have focused on isotopes that are sufficiently abundant in the sample (*e.g.* Mg in olivine; S, Fe and Cu in sulfides, Nd in monazite; Hf in zircon) such that Faraday detectors can be used for ion collection.

There are many advantages of Faraday collection such as efficiency and uniform response (see Longerich, 2008 for further discussion) but their precision is severely compromised by resistor noise at low signal intensities, as are found during in situ analysis of isotopes of minor to trace elements in minerals and glasses. In these cases,

discrete-dynode, secondary electron multipliers (SEMs) or continuous-dynode, channel electron multipliers (CEMs or Channeltrons<sup>®</sup>) may be employed. Figure 1, for instance, illustrates the improved precision that can be attained on a  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  signal of  $\sim 40,000$  cps using a Channeltron ion counter (1.5% RSD) compared to Faraday detector (6.7% RSD).

In this short course volume, Simonetti et al. (2008) describe the use of SEMs in conjunction with Faradays for LA-MC-ICP-MS U-Pb geochronology. Here, we report on LA-MC-ICP-MS analyses for silicate glass standard reference materials (SRMs) using Channeltrons. Our results on these SRMs have already been reported elsewhere (Souders & Sylvester, 2008) but here we give more details on the analytical procedures used and principles behind them. The use of Channeltrons for LA-MC-ICP-MS is a relatively new development. Tiepolo et al. (2006) used Channeltrons for in situ boron-isotope measurements by LA-MC-ICP-MS. Cocherie & Robert (2008) reported combined Channeltron-Faraday measurements for LA-MC-ICP-MS U-Pb zircon geochronology.

## **PRINCIPLES OF MULTI-ION COUNTING WITH ELECTRON MULTIPLIERS**

Ion counting and the use of electron multipliers have been incorporated into mass spectrometry for almost 50 years to detect and measure ions of low- to moderate-intensity ion beams, that is, less than  $10^6$  counts per second (cps). The physical process that allows electron multipliers, or ion counters, to operate is secondary ion emission. The general principle of secondary electron emission is that a particle or ion impacts a high-voltage surface, or dynode, causing the release of secondary electrons from the outer layers of atoms. The number of electrons produced by an impact is dependant on the

type of particle hitting the surface (*i.e.* positive ion, negative ion, electron, etc.), the angle of contact between the particle and the surface, the mass and energy of the incoming particles and the condition of the surface. The electrons produced by this initial collision are directed down the detector by an electric potential gradient, generating even more secondary electrons each time a collision occurs between an electron and the dynode surface inside the detector. This amplification process is quite effective: some 10 thousand to 100 million electrons are produced from each ion. Eventually the electrons reach an output device at the end of the ion counter, where a resultant pulse is produced that is processed using digital electronics.

A schematic of a Channeltron continuous-dynode electron multiplier is shown in Figure 2. They consist of curved lead-silicate glass tubes that have the ability to detect both positive and negative ions, electrons and photons. A potential between ~2000 and 3200 V is applied to the top, or input end, of the CEM and decreases steadily to ground state at the output end of the detector. Secondary electrons generated at the input end of the detector are driven down the channel to a collector by the potential gradient generating even more secondary electrons each time the particles come in contact with the inner surface walls of the detector (Burle Technologies Inc., 2003). SEMs operate on the same principle as CEMs, but consist of discrete dynode plates (see Simonetti et al., 2008) rather than a continuous dynode.

Electron gains, or the output current divided by the input current (which are less than 100%), are a function of the application, the voltage applied to the detector and the length of the dynode surface within the detector. The voltage applied to each detector has

an effect on the impact energy of ions arriving at the detector, which in turn influences the electron gain of the detector. In order to maintain normal gains, it is important to make sure the operational voltage of the ion counter is set properly. It is also important to understand that ion counter gains change or “drift” with exposure to ion currents over time, even within a single analytical session of a few hours. The challenge for isotope ratio measurements using multiple ion counters (MICs) is that each Channeltron will see different count rates, which are largely a function of the relative abundances of the isotopes measured, and thus the cross-calibration normalization factors for the different gains between the detectors or “yields” will drift as well. If the drift is linear over time however it may be corrected using a standard – sample – standard bracketing technique assuming that the standard and sample drift in an analogous fashion (Tiepolo et al., 2006; Souders & Sylvester, 2008; Cocherie & Robert, 2008). Drift may also be corrected by normalization to the invariant ratio of an isotope pair that is analyzed at the same time as the unknown isotope ratio (*e.g.* Pearson et al., 2008). Possible concerns about differences in drift between the sample and an external reference material are eliminated if the invariant pair is of the same chemical element as the unknown isotope ratio pair (*e.g.*  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$  for  $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ).

Linearity of the ion counters can become compromised by the accuracy of pulse pile up or “dead time” corrections at count rates exceeding approximately 300,000 cps. Thus it is recommended to adjust LA parameters (beam size, fluence, repetition rate) so that analytical work can be carried out at count rates below these levels. This is an unusual (but welcome) case in microbeam-based geoanalysis where the analytical

protocols for optimal data quality are in concert with the desire of the geologist to reveal fine scale heterogeneities in minerals by reducing the analytical volume as much as possible.

Tiepolo et al. (2006) have indicated that a "burn-in" period is needed for the stabilization of the gain factors for new Channeltrons. They suggested that Channeltrons become increasingly stable after exposure to more than 1.5 billion counts and have an operation voltage higher than 2300 V. Over months to years (depending on use), the surface of the detector where electron multiplication takes place will begin to degrade due to contamination from the vacuum system and as a result of ion impacts. The operational voltage of the detector will need to be increased in order to keep the impact energy of arriving particles constant and to maintain normal electron gains. Thus, it is advantageous to keep count rates low (<300,000 cps) not only to limit detector drift and potential dead time correction errors, but also in order to prolong the life-span of the ion counters before replacement becomes necessary.

## **PROCEDURES FOR LA-MC-ICP-MS ANALYSES OF Pb-ISOTOPES USING MULTIPLE CHANNELTRONS**

### **Instrumentation**

*In situ* lead isotope measurements described in this chapter were performed on a Thermo Finnigan NEPTUNE double-focusing multi-collector (MC)-ICP-MS equipped with nine Faraday detectors and eight Channeltron ion counters. The ion counters are identical in size to the Faraday detectors and can be attached to the high or low mass side of a Faraday cup within the collector array (Schwieters et al., 2004). A generalized

schematic of the NEPTUNE MC-ICP-MS is shown in Figure 3. Normal instrument operating parameters and the collector configuration used in this study are provided in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. Five ion counters are attached to the low mass side of Faraday cup I.4. They are used for the static, concurrent measurement of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ . The  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  measurement is used to correct for the isobaric interference of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . Mercury is a ubiquitous laboratory contaminant, present in the gas supplies for the ICP-MS and from other environmental sources that can coat surfaces of instrument components and sample mounts. It also can be a constituent of the sample matrix itself. To reduce levels of mercury in the argon gas, an activated charcoal filter made by Frontier GeoSciences Inc. is placed in the gas line to the ICP torch. The dry sorbent in the trap collects the vapor phase mercury present in both elemental and oxidized forms.

It is possible to monitor  $^{235}\text{U}$  (simultaneously with the lead isotopes) in an ion counter attached to a high mass Faraday cup due to the mass dispersion provided by the dynamic zoom optics of the NEPTUNE system and the variable multi-collector array. In this chapter, however,  $^{235}\text{U}$  data are not discussed because we are concerned only with describing lead isotope analyses in silicate glass SRMs of known composition. But the reader should keep in mind that  $^{235}\text{U}$  data would be valuable for lead isotope investigations of minerals or glasses of unknown composition in which lead isotope ratios have been modified by the in-growth of radiogenic lead via the decay of uranium after crystallization, or in uranium-rich phases such as zircon measured for U-Pb geochronology.

A GeoLas laser ablation system is linked to the MC-ICP-MS for *in situ* analyses. This system includes a Lambda Physik ComPex Pro 110 ArF excimer laser operating at a wavelength of 193 nm and a pulse width of 20 ns. Typical operating conditions for the GeoLas system are included in Table 1. A laser fluence of approximately 5 J/cm<sup>2</sup> and a repetition rate of 10 Hz were used for all glass analyses. The spot size of the analyses ranged from 40 to 99 µm depending on the total Pb concentrations of the glasses. Samples were ablated in helium gas, which reduces sample re-deposition and elemental fractionation while increasing sensitivity for 193 nm ablation (Eggins *et al.*, 1998; Gunther and Heinrich, 1999). Mercury was filtered from the helium using gold-coated glass wool placed on the helium gas line feeding the ablation cell.

#### **Long-term settings of Channeltrons**

The dead time for each ion counter on our instrument is set to 70 ns at the recommendation of the manufacturer due to the tendency for Channeltrons to produce double-pulses, the second arriving 30 – 40 ns after the main pulse (Tiepolo *et al.* 2006). The dark noise and operation voltage for each ion counter are checked every few months. The typical dark noise measurement for a single ion counter has not exceeded 0.0060 cps. A plateau calibration curve (cps vs. voltage) is constructed to determine the operation voltage for each ion counter using a PCL script within the NEPTUNE operating software. This procedure is performed in solution mode for each ion counter individually. The calibration curve is constructed by focusing the ion beam into one ion counter while the operation voltage of that ion counter is increased in 20 V increments. The output signal for each step is recorded in counts per second. The operation voltage for each ion



counter is determined by observing the point, or bend in the curve where the change in signal intensity (cps) no longer significantly increases with a corresponding increase in the detector voltage. The operating voltage can be different for each ion counter so a plateau calibration curve must be constructed for each individual ion counter. Operating voltages for the Channeltrons in our laboratory were set at ~2100V when they were new and had reached ~3000 V when they first needed to be replaced.

### **Sample preparation**

Sample preparation for LA-MC-ICP-MS is relatively straightforward. In the case here, small separates of the silicate glass SRMs were mounted in 10 or 25 mm rings using epoxy resin. Once the epoxy had cured, the mount was ground to a flat surface and polished using diamond abrasive, exposing a cross-section of each glass. The mounts fit inside circular cavities of the polycarbonate holders fashioned for the laser ablation cell.

The SRMs discussed here are USGS BCR2-G and MPI-DING T1-G, ATHO-G, KL2-G and ML3B-G, made by fusion of natural rocks. BCR2-G, KL2-G and ML3B-G all have basaltic compositions whereas T1-G is a quartz-diorite and ATHO-G is a rhyolite. Each glass has well-defined lead isotope ratios and chemical composition, with total lead concentrations ranging from ~1 to 11 ppm (Jochum et al. 2000; Jochum et al. 2005a; Jochum et al. 2006a).

### Tasks for set-up of an analytical session of isotope ratio measurements

Figure 4 is a flow chart documenting the step-by-step tasks that an analyst needs to do each day that LA-MC-ICP-MS analyses are to be carried out. To begin, great care must be given to eliminate any potential contamination from the ambient environment on the surfaces of components of the ICP-MS instrument (ablation cell, transfer tubing, torch, cones, etc.) and the samples themselves. This is particularly true of lead and other “sticky” metals that are ubiquitous contaminants in laboratory settings. It is true that laboratory contaminants can be removed from the surface of sample mounts by “pre-ablation” for a few seconds before the “analytical ablation” is carried out but since this only disperses contaminants into the sample introduction system where they may be released during subsequent analyses, we emphasize careful cleaning instead.

Our epoxy mounts are cleaned in an ultrasonic bath for approximately 15 min with double-distilled water, deionized and purified (to  $18 \text{ M}\Omega \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) by a Milli-Q water system. The surface of each mount is then scrubbed with double-distilled,  $\sim 8 \text{ N HNO}_3$  followed by a Milli-Q water rinse. The mount is left to dry in a positive-pressure air box prior to loading into the laser ablation sample cell. The ICP torch, injector, quartz shield, glass T-piece used to mix the He and Ar gases, and sampler and skimmer cones are all cleaned prior to each analytical session as well. Torch parts and glassware are soaked in a  $\sim 0.5 \text{ N HNO}_3$  bath and subsequently rinsed with double-distilled  $\sim 8 \text{ N HNO}_3$  followed by a Milli-Q water rinse. Residue from prior ablations was removed from both the sample and skimmer cones with a cotton-topped applicator and each cone was rinsed with deionized water prior to installation on the instrument.

The next steps in the daily set-up involve instrument tuning and determinations of yields (cross-calibration normalization factors) for the Channeltrons, which are both done in solution mode prior to *in situ* laser analyses. On the NEPTUNE, after a typical 30 to 45 minute warm-up period, gas flow, torch position, and lens focus potentials are all first adjusted for maximum sensitivity as well as optimal peak shape and peak overlap using the Faraday detectors and aspirating a 10 ppb Pb NBS 981 solution (Table 2). Typical sensitivity is 28 mV or ~1,750,000 cps (1 mV is ~62,500 cps) per ppb  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ . Following a brief wash-out with dilute  $\text{HNO}_3$ , the collector array is repositioned for the collection of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  in the 5 MICs attached to the low-mass end of Faraday cup L4 (Table 2).

Determination of the ion counter yields is shown schematically in Figure 5. This process is similar to determining the gain for a Faraday collector but instead of an electronic pulse being sent through each detector, the relative yield of each ion counter is determined by a dynamic peak jumping method which sequentially places a reference signal of ~100,000 cps into each of the 8 ion counters by changing the mass setting for the center Faraday cup. The relative yield value for each ion counter is determined in solution mode to maximize signal stability and attain the best precision. The dynamic cycle is repeated 10 times using an integration time of 8 sec. The relative yield value for each ion counter to be used in the analytical session (IC1 – IC5 in the case of lead isotopes) is then determined by normalizing the average of the measured signal intensities for each ion counter to the average response of IC1. If the relative yield values are not within 80% of IC1, the operation voltage on the ion counter is adjusted.

After another brief wash-out period, the instrument is switched to laser ablation mode and rechecked for sensitivity on a known reference material and, if necessary, retuned. Under dry plasma conditions a typical sensitivity of 23,000 cps per ppm  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  for *in situ* analyses of BCR2-G (~11 ppm total Pb) with a 40  $\mu\text{m}$  laser spot is achieved using our instrumentation. Signal intensities during *in situ* analysis are typically less than ~5 mV, or ~312,500 cps, in all ion counters (for BCR2-G with a 40  $\mu\text{m}$  spot, ~230,000 cps  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  is typical). Ion counter backgrounds are usually less than 1000 cps for all the lead isotopes.

#### **Analytical routine**

The duration of each standard and sample analysis in our experiments is ~ 120 seconds or 120 cycles using an integration time of ~1 sec/cycle. The first 30 seconds (cycles) are used to measure the background count rates with the laser off followed by 60 seconds of laser ablation monitoring of the  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  isotopes followed by a 30 second wash-out.

Standard – sample – standard bracketing is employed to correct for instrumental mass fractionation in the argon plasma and other components of the ICP (e.g., the transfer lenses), as well as for detector drift. The lead isotopic system does not have an invariant isotopic pair that can be used to monitor fractionation and drift. Also, the configuration of ion counters on our instrument does not allow us to monitor mass bias and drift relative to an aspirated thallium tracer solution of known isotopic composition or measured  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  using the MICs in static mode (Pearson *et al.*, 2008). For bracketing, the lead isotope measurement of every three unknown samples are preceded

and followed by three measurements of the bracketing standard, BCR2-G. Souders and Sylvester (2008) discussed the suitability of BCR2-G as a bracketing standard for in situ lead isotope measurements including its homogeneity (which, on the micron-scale, is better than 1% for lead isotope ratios with  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  and as good as 0.15% for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ), and give the calibration values used for lead isotope ratios in this material.

On-line corrections for yield, dark noise and dead time are performed using the NEPTUNE software prior to downloading the measured mass intensities into an Excel spreadsheet for off-line subtraction of mean gas background intensities from the time-resolved signal intensities for each isotope,  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  interference corrections on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  (described below), lead isotope ratio calculations, and instrumental mass bias corrections (Albarede *et al.*, 2004). Lead isotope ratios determined for the set of three BCR2-G standards run before and after each set of 3 unknowns are averaged together. The lead isotope ratios for the unknowns are linearly interpolated, anchored by the average value of the three standards.

As noted above, bracketing with an external standard can be carried out by simple interpolation only if drift in the measured isotopic ratios of the standard are linear over the course of an analytical session, and there are no differences in mass bias between the standard matrix and the sample matrix. Figure 6 illustrates how the Channeltrons used for  $^{206}\text{Pb}$  (IC3) and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  (IC5) drifted for BCR2-G, ML3B-G, KL2-G and ATHO-G SRMs over the course of two experiments separated by five months in our laboratory.  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  is about twice as abundant as  $^{206}\text{Pb}$  in the SRMs and thus the efficiency of IC5 decreases more rapidly than IC3 as it is exposed to greater total counts over time than

IC3. The  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio decreases accordingly but in a linear fashion that is consistent for all four SRM glasses. It is particularly noteworthy that ATHO-G, a rhyolite glass, exhibits similar drift behavior as BCR2-G, ML3B-G and KL2-G, which are basalt glasses. This gives us some confidence that BCR2-G can be effectively used as a bracketing standard for lead isotope measurements in unknown glasses of basalt to rhyolite composition. Note that the total drift of the Channeltrons was much greater in the later experiment (May 2007) than in the earlier one (December 2006). This may reflect the fact that the operation voltage settings for the ion counters had not been recently calibrated before the May 2007 experiment, in contrast to the December 2006 experiment.

#### **Interference corrections for mercury on $^{204}\text{Pb}$**

The main motivation for using multicollector ICP-MS instruments for measurements of lead isotope ratios rather than single collector instruments is the potential to determine ratios involving the minor  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope much more precisely. The ability to measure lead isotope ratios involving  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  is particularly difficult in lead – poor samples due to its low relative abundance (~1.4 % of all common lead) and the isobaric interference from  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  mentioned above. The interference from  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  is potentially very significant for laser analyses where target materials contain more than ~10 ppm Hg, and even for materials with less Hg where lead concentrations are very low (< 5 ppm total Pb).

We have explored two methods for interference corrections for  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , which are detailed in Figure 7 and in Souders and Sylvester (2008). In Method 1, which

is very similar to the off-line  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ -correction procedure presented in Horstwood *et al.* (2003) and Paul *et al.* (2005), gas background subtraction removes the  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  in the gas from the  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  measurement, and any residual  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  derived from the sample itself is calculated from the  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  and the background-corrected  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  measurement in the sample.  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  is ideally calculated from the relative natural abundances of the mercury isotopes and a mass bias factor ( $\beta$ ) determined from the observed  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$ , measured in the gas background at the start of a day's laser ablation session using a cup configuration in which  $^{200}\text{Hg}$  is collected in IC1 and  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in IC2. With our instrumentation, however, we could not measure  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  in the ion counters accurately (possibly due to an isobaric interference on  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ). We thus had to simply assume that  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  had the natural ratio recommended by IUPAC (Rosman and Taylor, 1997).

In Method 2, the  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  of the gas background is determined from measurements of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  made with the laser off prior to each analysis. For each gas background measurement cycle,  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  is calculated from the measured  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , assuming that the actual isotopic composition of lead in the gas is given by the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for modern lead ( $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 38.63 \pm 0.98$ ; Stacey and Kramers, 1975). The  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  in the gas is then determined by subtraction of the calculated  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  from the measured  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$ , and a calculated  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the gas is derived using the measured  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the gas. With both  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the gas now established, the  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  for each laser ablation measurement cycle is determined by subtracting  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  from the measured  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  using the measured  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  during laser

ablation and the average  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  for the gas background. The resulting  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  is then background corrected using the average  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  calculated for the gas background.

Souders and Sylvester (2008) tested both methods and found that Method 2 gave somewhat more precise results for their data sets. They also showed that while within-run fluctuations in the mass bias factor ( $\beta$ ) calculated from  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{200}\text{Hg}$  in Method 1 will have little effect on the accuracy of the final lead isotope results for most natural silicate glasses, which have  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios of less than 0.5, data quality will be degraded for minerals (notably some sulfides) with  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  intensities greater than  $\sim 2$  (Figure 8). Therefore Method 2 is preferred for determining lead isotope ratios from LA-MC-ICP-MS data.

## ION COUNTER LINEARITY

The linearity of each of ion counters IC2 – IC5 as a function of count rate is shown for both solution and laser analysis in Figures 9 and 10, respectively. In the solution experiment, a series of SRM 981 dissolutions with total lead concentrations from 0.025 to 0.1 ppb were analyzed. Signal intensities varied from a few hundred counts per second for  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  to  $\sim 120,000$  cps for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  (Fig. 9A-D). All results are well-correlated ( $r^2 > 0.99$ ) showing a linear increase in count rate with increasing Pb concentration. The laser linearity test was performed by ablating BCR2-G for 60 seconds and varying the total volume of material ablated by changing the diameter of the laser spot while keeping the laser energy ( $3 \text{ J/cm}^2$ ) and laser repetition rate (10 Hz) constant. Lead count rates ranged from  $\sim 300$  cps (20  $\mu\text{m}$  spot) to  $\sim 4000$  cps (109  $\mu\text{m}$  spot) for  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , to  $\sim 7000$  cps (20  $\mu\text{m}$  spot) to  $\sim 130,000$  cps (109  $\mu\text{m}$  spot) for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  (Fig. 10A-D). This is associated



calculated laser pit volumes of  $\sim 18,000 \mu\text{m}^3$  to  $\sim 575,000 \mu\text{m}^3$  respectively. Again, the results are well-correlated ( $r^2 > 0.99$ ) with count rates increasing linearly with increasing spot size.

The co-linearity of the ion counters as a function of count rate is illustrated for both solution (Fig. 9E-H) and laser ablation (Fig. 10E-H) analyses using  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (IC5/IC2) and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  (IC4/IC3) ratios. The figures plot the data both before (E-F) and after (G-H) mass bias corrections were applied and are shown relative to the preferred values of each of SRM 981 (Baker et al. 2004) and BCR2-G (<http://georem.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de>). The results of the solution and laser analyses show that within the range of lead concentrations and amounts of ablated material that were evaluated, the mass bias corrected lead isotope ratios match the preferred values to better than  $\sim 0.2\%$  for the solution data and to within  $\sim 0.7$  to  $1\%$  for the laser data. The somewhat better accuracy for the solution data compared to the laser data reflect additional sources of error in laser analyses beyond ion counter co-linearity. These additional errors are probably associated with the generation, transport and vaporization of laser-derived aerosols.

#### ACCURACY AND PRECISION OF SILICATE GLASS ANALYSES

Souders and Sylvester (2008) reported lead isotope ratios for the silicate glass SRMs T1-G (11.6 ppm total Pb), ATHO-G (5.67 ppm total Pb), KL2-G (2.07 ppm total Pb) and ML3B-G (1.38 ppm total Pb), measured using the methods discussed in this chapter (Figure 11). Results for T1-G and ATHO-G agree, on average, with the preferred values to within 0.10% and 0.15%, respectively, using  $40 \mu\text{m}$  laser ablation spots. For

KL2-G and ML3B-G, measured mean  $^{208,207,206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios are within 0.75% of the accepted values using 69  $\mu\text{m}$  spots, whereas measured mean  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios are within 0.45% of preferred values. For the glasses with the lowest concentrations of lead, Method 2 for the mercury interference correction produces somewhat more accurate and precise results than Method 1.

Figure 12 provides a comparison between the external precision of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios determined by Souders and Sylvester (2008) with the combined SEM-Faraday, LA-MC-ICP-MS measurements of Paul *et al.* (2005) and Simonetti *et al.* (2005) and the single-SEM-collector, LA- sector field (SF)-ICP-MS data of Jochum *et al.* (2005b) and Jochum *et al.* (2006b). For laser spot sizes between 90 to 120  $\mu\text{m}$ , the external precision of the multi-Channeltron LA-MC-ICP-MS measurements of Souders and Sylvester (2008) for both the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios in the SRMs with the lowest lead concentrations, KL2-G and ML3B-G, show a distinct improvement when compared to the measurements made with the combined SEM-Faraday LA-MC-ICP-MS and single-SEM-collector LA-SF-ICP-MS methods. For 40 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$  spots on the SRMs with somewhat more lead, ATHO-G and T1-G, there is improvement in the precision on  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios for the data of Souders and Sylvester (2008) compared to the single-SEM-collector data, but not in the precision on  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios. The results attest to the particular improvement in external precision that can be achieved for lead isotope ratios involving  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  when ion counters are used to collect all 4 lead isotopes in lead-poor samples. With multicollector cup configurations that include Faraday

detectors, it is necessary to produce a signal of at least ~5mV (~310,000 cps) to preserve acceptable levels of precision.

Souders and Sylvester (2008) compared the theoretical and observed limits of precision for the multiple Channeltron measurements for lead isotopes using the observed internal precision for the silicate SRMs glasses that they analyzed, plotted as a function of total  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  intensity (Figure 13). Theoretical limits of precision are governed by Poisson counting statistics, detector dark noise, the uncertainty on the measurement of the blank, and uncertainties associated with ion counter gains and the correction for the isobaric interference of  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on the 204-mass. Theoretical precision degrades rapidly at total  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  intensities of less than 1 mV (~62,500 cps). The minimum theoretical limits of precision for lead isotope ratios measured using multiple Channeltrons are approached at lower total  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  count rates than for Faraday-SEM cup configurations (*e.g.* Paul *et al.* 2005). This is because the uncertainty budget of the multiple Channeltron method is dominated by uncertainties in the ion counter gains, which are large only at very low  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  count rates. Internal precision of measured lead isotope ratios in the silicate glass SRMs plot well above the theoretical curves. This reflects additional errors not included in the theoretical calculations, including possible matrix effects associated with the laser-produced aerosols, spot-to-spot heterogeneity in the lead isotopic composition of the BCR2-G calibrant and fluctuations in mass bias factors over short time scales (*i.e.* between individual analyses).

Kent (2008) has recently compared analytical uncertainties for LA-MC-ICP-MS measurements of lead isotope ratios using a combined Faraday-SEM detector array (with

the discrete-dynode ion counters used for  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  and  $^{200}\text{Hg}$ ) to those made using solely Faraday cups. He found that at signal intensities of 5 mV or  $\sim 310,000$  cps for  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , the precision on measurements using an ion counter for  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  are significantly better than those using a Faraday cup for  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ . However, the use of a parallel Faraday-SEM configuration introduces an additional error of  $\pm 0.3\%$  ( $2s$ ) associated with the measurement of differences in gain between the ion counters and Faraday cups, which is required for determination of  $^{208,207,206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios. Thus, Kent (2008) argued that improvements in the precision on  $^{208,207,206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios are realized with the combined Faraday-SEM detector array only when measuring intensities of less than 2 mV or  $\sim 130,000$  cps  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  in an ion counter.

Kent (2008) compared the precision on  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios as a function of lead count rates, with measured intensities of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  as low as  $\sim 7000$  cps in an ion counter, and  $\sim 4000$  cps in a Faraday. At these very low intensities, his data show uncertainties on  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  of about  $\pm 0.8\%$  ( $2s$ ) for the ion counter measurement and about  $\pm 10\%$  ( $2s$ ) for the Faraday measurement. Our multiple Channeltron data for lead isotope ratios cover an even lower range of  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  intensities ( $\sim 200$  to  $4000$  cps) so we have compared our data to Kent's in Figure 14. The plot illustrates the potential improvements in precision that can be attained by employing multiple Channeltrons for LA-MC-ICP-MS in samples that have very low lead concentrations, or require analysis at a very fine spatial resolution, and thus remove only very small aliquots of the target matrix during laser ablation. Particularly important applications in the Earth sciences that may be developed in the

coming years are *in situ* analyses of fluid inclusions (Pettke, 2008) and melt inclusions (Mason *et al.*, 2008).

## THE FUTURE

LA-MC-ICP-MS with Faraday cup collection has changed geoanalysis fundamentally in recent years by providing Earth scientists with the ability to determine precise isotopic ratios of major and minor elements in minerals *in situ*. Whereas geologists were once trying to understand isotopic variations only on the scale of whole rock samples, they now are increasingly analyzing and modeling isotopic variations on the mineral scale, and debating the significance of those models, in ever more detail.

The development of ion counters for LA-MC-ICP-MS opens up the possibility of determining precise isotopic ratios of trace elements in minerals *in situ*, thereby expanding the data sets available to the Earth scientist significantly. We can look forward confidently to exciting new applications in accessory mineral geochronology and thermochronology, sedimentary provenance, and petrogenesis in the years to come. Proper use of LA-MC-ICP-MS instruments equipped with multiple Channeltron detectors will be essential part of this development.

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**Table 1** Typical operating conditions for the Finnigan Neptune MC-ICPMS and GeoLas laser ablation system

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Finnigan Neptune MC-ICPMS	
Operation power	1200 W
HV	10 kV
Cool gas flow	16 l min <sup>-1</sup>
Auxiliary gas flow	0.7 l min <sup>-1</sup>
Carrier gas (Ar) flow rate	0.9 l min <sup>-1</sup>
Cones	Ni (H skimmer cone)

GeoLas laser ablation system	
Lambda Physik Compex Pro 110 ArF excimer	193 nm
Laser fluence	~5 J cm <sup>-2</sup>
Spot size	40 - 99 µm
Repetition rate	10 Hz
He gas to cell	1.2 l min <sup>-1</sup>

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Table 2 Finnigan Neptune collector assignments for Pb isotope analysis

Collector <sup>a</sup>	IC1	IC2	IC3	IC4	IC5	L4	L3	L2	L1	C	H1	H2	H3	IC6	H4	IC7	IC8
Ion Counters																	
isotope	<sup>203</sup> Hg	<sup>203</sup> Hg	<sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb	<sup>208</sup> Pb												
Faraday																	
isotope		<sup>204</sup> (Hg+Pb)	<sup>204</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb	<sup>208</sup> Pb	<sup>206</sup> Hg	<sup>205</sup> Hg	<sup>206</sup> (Hg+Pb)	<sup>206</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb	<sup>207</sup> Pb	<sup>208</sup> Pb					<sup>235</sup> U
									219.68								

L4 to L1, C, and H1 to H4 are Faraday cups. IC1 to IC3 are ion counters fixed to Faraday cup L4. IC6 is an ion counter fixed to Faraday cup H3. IC7 and IC8 are ion counters fixed to Faraday cup H4.

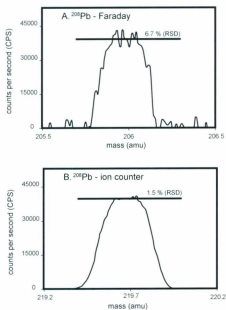
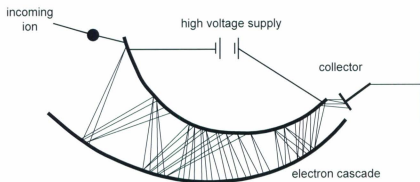


Fig. 1. Peak shapes of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  from a SRM 981 standard solution of 0.5 ppb total Pb concentration measured on a (A) Faraday detector and a (B) Channeltron ion counter. The x-axis corresponds to the mass range over which the peak was measured with the center value representing the axial mass of the collector array. The noise level for the plateau of the  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  signal collected in the Faraday detector (6.71 % RSD, 1-sigma) is over four times that of the noise level for the plateau of the  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  signal collected in the ion counter (1.5 % RSD, 1-sigma).



Continuous dynode electron multiplier

Fig. 2. Example of a continuous-dynode electron multiplier (modified from Montaser, 1998). Secondary electrons are produced when ions impact the high-voltage surfaces while traveling down the channel.

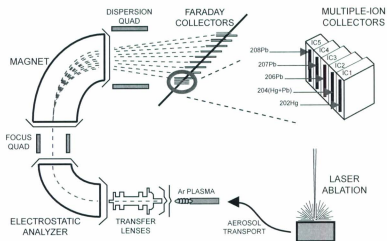


Fig. 3. Generalized illustration of the Finnigan NEPTUNE multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer.

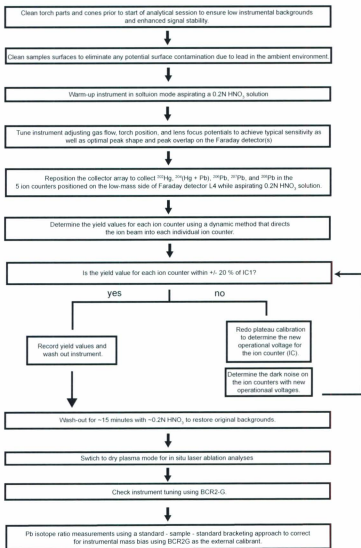


Fig. 4. Flow chart describing the daily analytical set-up for Pb isotope analyses using multiple ion counters.

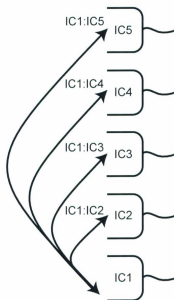


Fig. 5. Illustration depicting how the yield cross-calibration factors for each ion counter are determined. An ion beam of  $\sim 100\,000$  counts is directed into each individual ion counter 10 times over the course of the yield calibration. The beam intensity is measured using an  $\sim 8$  sec integration time. To determine the yield factor, the measured beam intensities of ion counters 2 – 5 (IC2 – IC5) are recorded and normalized to the measured ion beam intensity of ion counter 1 (IC1).



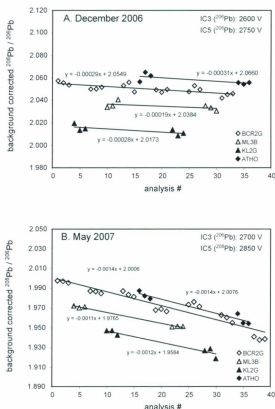


Fig. 6. Decrease in the measured (uncorrected)  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio within sequences of analyses consisting of 4 different silicate glass SRMs performed in (A) December 2006 and (B) May 2007, the latter with collector voltages set somewhat higher. The decrease is due largely to drift in ion counter yields. The slopes of the linear regressions fit to the drift are similar for all materials, independent of composition, indicating that BCR2-G may be used effectively as the bracketing standard for the other silicate glasses. The time interval covered by the December 2006 and May 2007 experiments is 85 and 90 minutes, respectively.

## DATA REDUCTION METHODS

On-line yield, dark noise and dead time corrections made on each measurement cycle for the 90 second analysis using the NEPTUNE software.

Download EXP file to formatted Excel worksheet.

Select gas background interval for  $^{203}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$

### METHOD 1

Average signal intensities from the selected gas background interval.

Mean gas background subtracted from each  $^{203}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$ ,  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  measurement cycle in laser ablation interval.

$^{203}\text{Pb}$  during the ablation interval calculated by subtracting  $^{203}\text{Hg}$  from the  $^{203}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})$  using the natural  $^{203}\text{Hg}/^{203}\text{Pb}$  ratio ( $\sim 0.2301$ ) and the background corrected  $^{203}\text{Hg}$   
e.g.  $^{203}\text{Pb} = ^{203}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})_{\text{gas, corr}} - (^{203}\text{Hg}_{\text{gas, corr}} \times 0.2301)$

Pb isotope ratios calculated from each measurement cycle during laser ablation

2-sigma outlier rejection performed on calculated Pb isotope ratios.

Pb isotope ratios averaged for selected laser ablation interval

### METHOD 2

Calculate factor to determine the difference between the measured  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  in the gas background and the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  value for modern Pb ( $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} \sim 38.63$ ) for each background measurement cycle.  
 $f = 38.63 / (^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb})_{\text{gas, mean}}$

Factor (f) used to calculate the  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  in measured  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})_{\text{gas}}$  for each background measurement cycle.  
 $^{204}\text{Pb}_{\text{gas}} = ^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})_{\text{gas, mean}} / f$

$^{204}\text{Hg}/^{203}\text{Hg}$  calculated for the gas background for each background measurement cycle.  
 $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{203}\text{Hg} = [^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})_{\text{gas}} - ^{204}\text{Pb}_{\text{gas}}] / ^{203}\text{Hg}_{\text{gas, mean}}$

Calculated  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{203}\text{Hg}$  and  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ , and measured  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  averaged over selected background interval.

Each laser ablation measurement cycle background corrected by subtracting the average background  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ .

$^{204}\text{Hg}$  removed from  $^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})_{\text{mean}}$  by using the measured  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  for each laser ablation measurement cycle and the calculated average  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{203}\text{Hg}$  for the gas background.  
e.g.  $^{204}\text{Pb}_{\text{gas, corr}} = ^{204}(\text{Hg} + \text{Pb})_{\text{mean}} - (^{204}\text{Hg}_{\text{gas, mean}} \times ^{204}\text{Hg}/^{203}\text{Hg}_{\text{gas, corr}}) - ^{204}\text{Pb}_{\text{gas, corr}}$

Pb isotope ratios calculated for each measurement cycle during laser ablation

2-sigma outlier rejection performed on calculated Pb isotope ratios.

Pb isotope ratios averaged for selected laser ablation interval

Fig. 7. Comparison of the two data reduction strategies presented in this chapter. Method 2 is the reduction method favored by the authors and used for routine daily Pb isotope analyses using multiple ion counters.

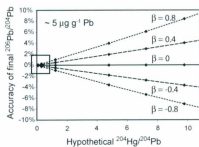


Fig. 8. Plot of accuracy of the final  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  as a function of hypothetical  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and various mass bias factors ( $\beta$ ) for a material of approximately  $5 \mu\text{g g}^{-1} \text{ Pb}$ . The box highlights the typical Hg/Pb ratios for silicate glasses used in our study, which is  $< 0.5$ . (From Souders and Sylvester, 2008).

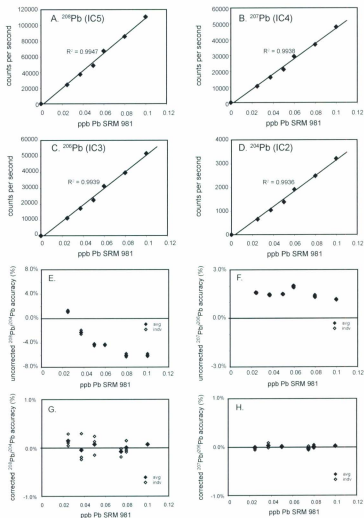


Fig. 9. Channeltron linearity in solution mode. (A-D) Graphs showing the linear increase in measured intensities (cps) for each Pb isotope as the total Pb concentration of a SRM 981 standard solution is increased. A concentrated "mother" solution was diluted with varying amounts of ~0.2 % HNO<sub>3</sub> to make all solutions used in the experiment. Each point represents the average background corrected count rate of 3 analyses of the same SRM 981 solution. (E-H) Plots displaying the accuracy of the measured, uncorrected  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$  (E) and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$  (F) ratios, and the mass bias corrected  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$  (G) and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$  (H) ratios for various total Pb concentrations of standard solution SRM 981. Solid diamonds represent the accuracy of the average of three lead isotope ratio measurements of the same SRM 981 solution. The open diamonds are the accuracy of each individual measurement of the same standard solution. The preferred values for SRM 981 from Baker et al. (2004) were used to calculate the mass bias corrected lead isotope ratios used in plots G and H, the accuracy results in plots E-H.

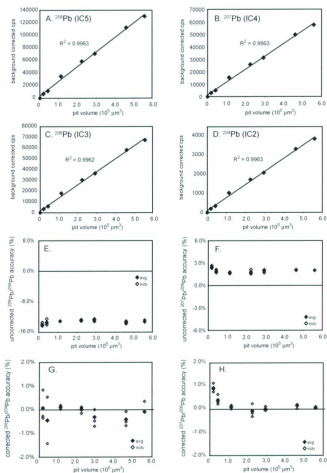


Fig. 10. Channeltron linearity in laser ablation mode. (A-D) Plots of background corrected count rates for each lead isotope over a range of laser ablation pit volumes. Variation in the volume of material ablated was produced by adjusting the laser spot size while keeping the laser energy ( $3 \text{ J/cm}^2$ ) and repetition rate (10 Hz) constant. Each point represents the average background corrected count rate of three 60 second laser analyses of BCR2-G at a single spot size. The volume of material ablated was estimated using a drill rate of  $\sim 1 \mu\text{m/sec}$ . (E-H) Plots showing the accuracy of the background corrected  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$  ratios (E-F) and the mass bias corrected  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{208}\text{Pb}$  ratios (G-H) for an increasing range of laser ablation pit volumes. Solid diamonds represent the accuracy of the average of three lead isotope ratio measurements performed under the same laser ablation conditions. The open diamonds represent each individual analysis. Method 2 outlined in this paper and the preferred values for BCR2-G given in GeoREM (<http://georem.mpcch-mainz.gwdg.de/>) were used to calculate the mass bias corrected lead isotope ratios used in plots G and H, the accuracy results in plots E-H.

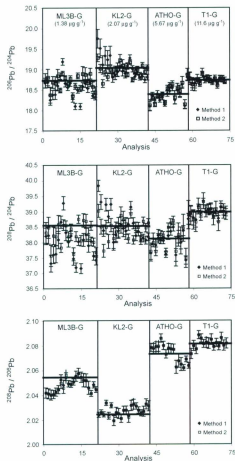


Fig. 11. LA-MC-ICPMS analysis of lead isotope ratios in silicate glass SRMs ML3B-G, KL2-G, ATHO-G and T1-G, arranged from left to right in order of increasing lead concentration. 5 solid horizontal lines indicate the preferred lead isotopic values for each glass given in GeoREM (<http://georem.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/>). Lead isotope ratios for each analysis are calculated using both Method 1 (filled diamonds) and Method 2 (open squares). There is general agreement between the Method 1 and 2 results and the preferred values for the glasses with higher lead concentrations (ATHO-G and T1-G) for the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . There is more scatter and larger discrepancies between the two methods for the two glasses with lower concentrations (ML3B-G and KL2-G) but, in general, Method 2 produces more accurate and precise results than Method 1. (From Souders and Sylvester, 2008).

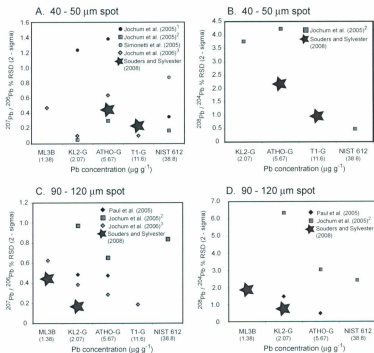


Fig. 12. Comparison of the external precision on  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios in a silicate glass SRMs as a function of spot size in Souders and Sylvester (2008) and other LA-MC-ICP-MS and single-collector LA-SF-ICP-MS investigations. (A) and (B) compare analyses using spot sizes ranging from 40 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , while (C) and (D) compare the reproducibility of measurements using spot sizes between 90 and 120  $\mu\text{m}$ .

1Measurements using Escan mode.

2Measurements using combined Escan and Bscan modes.

3Only 193nm laser data considered.

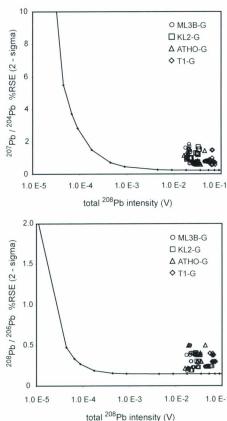


Fig. 13. Theoretical limits of precision, expressed as % RSE (2-sigma), for the measurement of lead isotope ratios using MICs are defined by the solid line. The observed internal precision on the lead isotope ratio measurements of Souders and Sylvester (2008) for the MPI-DING silicate glasses are also shown. Uncertainties due to counting statistics, dark noise, background subtraction, ion counter yield, and the  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  correction on the 204-mass are all included in the calculation of the theoretical curves. (From Souders and Sylvester, 2008).



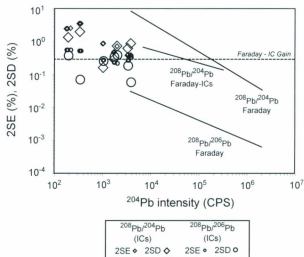


Fig. 14. Plot of observed measurement precision and  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  average signal intensity (cps) for replicate analyses of BCR2-G. Variations in the observed count rates were produced by changing the laser spot size. The points represent the 2SE (%) and 2SD (%) for mass bias corrected  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios where all lead isotopes of interest were measured on ion counters. The standard error of the mean (2SE (%)) was calculated for each individual analysis of BCR2-G consisting of 30 seconds of background measurement followed by 60 seconds of laser ablation followed by 30 seconds of wash-out. The standard deviation (2SD (%)) was calculated for the 3 replicate analyses for each laser spot size. The solid lines are the observed measurement precision trends for lead isotope ratios using both Faraday-Faraday and Faraday-ion counter cup configurations from Kent (2008) for NIST 610 SRM and the dashed line is the analytical uncertainty for Faraday-ion counter cross calibration (gain). The uncertainty on the Faraday-ion counter gain is the greatest source of error for measurements below this line. It is only a very low count rates that analytical precision is improved using multiple ion counters to measure lead isotope ratios involving  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ .



